# The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1908.

## The Week.

To the agreement between our government and Japan's no objection has been raised in this country, save one of a technical nature. Senatorial prerogative and jealousy are ruffled by the intimation that the document is not to be submitted to the Senate. For the Democratic minority of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Senator Bacon asserts that any agreement of the kind, without the approval of the Senate stamped upon it, is "not worth the paper upon which it is written." This criticism of the mere form of the negotiation does not seem vital or even very important. The agreement does not purport to be a treaty. If it were, and if it undertook to bind this country to Japan in an offensive and defensive alliance, even of a limited kind seen in the Anglo-Japanese treaty, it would have to be submitted to the Senate; but nothing of that ambitious and revolutionary sort has been attempted by Mr. Root. He has made to Japan a declaration, as it were, of the present policy of our State Department in certain matters of common interest. Either country could ignore it and go to war; but, then, treaties do not prevent nations from making war if they are bent upon it. Unless there is a sound motive and an honorable purpose behind a treaty or an agreement, neither is worth much. And if the agreement entered into with Japan does really express the common mind of the two countries, as regards the matters covered, and if there is an intention on both sides loyally to abide by it, then the technical objection amounts to little. The status of the negotiation is much like that of Secretary Hay's concerning the Open Door in China. In that, too, there was no question of a treaty or an alliance; but an exchange of notes proved of the greatest value.

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Secretary Root's undertaking is of narrower scope, but deals with a situation even more critical. That our relations with Japan have been strained for three years past, it is useless to deny. In both nations a state of mind has existed which has predisposed men to exaggerate trifles, and dwell too much upon points of friction. It was to this kind of lurking apprehension and mental inflammation that Mr. Root addressed himself; and it seems to us that the solution hit upon will be of immediate practical effect, and of lasting value as an example of peaceful adjustment of difficulties. The instrument agreed upon rests on a basis of mutual respect. Japan disclaims any designs upon our territorial possessions, as we upon hers. This at once disposes of the Japanese "swoop" upon Hawaii, or the Philippines. In China and Manchuria, where trade interests are common, the agreement guards each side; and in case anything arises to disturb conditions in the Orient, the two governments agree to "consult" with each other, and to act in common, if a way be found to do so. In short, the agreement emphasizes the stake which both Japan and the United States have in the maintenance of peace, points out the many ways in which they can coöperate, and adds written and official pledges which are as binding as good morals and the national conscience, no more and no less. The way in which this achievement has been hailed abroad as a great work for peace, is a good measure of its importance. Foreign commentators know that if either party to it were to violate the contract, no court exists to inflict punishment, except the court of international public opinion. But the impalpable writs of that court are gaining in respect with every year. International goodwill is an asset which the richest nation cannot throw away; and a repute for honor among sister-nations is a thing which the mightiest will not to-day disregard. It is upon these simple principles that the agreement with Japan is founded.

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At last, it appears, there is to be a radical overhauling of the Navy Department, undertaken by Secretary Newberry. The necessity of a reorganization has been felt by every recent Secretary who has been in office long enough to master his duties. So long ago as 1885 President Cleveland, in his annual message, used the following emphatic language:

> I deem it my duty to especially direct the attention of Congress to the close of the report of the Secretary of the Navy [Whitney], in which the humiliating weakness of the present organization of his department is exhibited, and the startling abuses and waste of its present methods are exposed. The conviction is forced upon us with the certainty of mathematical demonstration that before we proceed further in the restoration of the navy, we need a thoroughly organized Navy Department.

But Mr. Whitney's appeals were in vain; he, too, had to content himself with the shifting of duties between the bureaus. Nor did it avail him to recall to the memory of Congressmen that ten years previously, in the investigation of the Navy Department of 1875-76, an able officer, Commander D. McW. Fairfax, had informed the House Naval Committee that "the bureau system was gradually undermining the discipline of the Navy Department, and must sooner or later be changed." Secretary Herbert, in 1894, dwelt on the incessant friction between the bureaus, all coördinate. Secretary Long, after his experience in the war with Spain, also urged strongly that the department should be reconstituted. It was during his administration, we believe, that the captain of a battleship received orders from one bureau to sail from the New York Navy Yard at once and was threatened with court-martial by another if he did so. Mr. Long, in 1899, declared that the bureaus of steam engineering, construction, and equipment should be consolidated, since all their functions related to the preparing of a ship for sea, and in 1900 he repeated this recommendation. The facts, then, are indisputable. The strange thing is that the abuses have persisted through so many administrations.

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The decision of the Supreme Court, in the matter of the two-cent-fare law of Virginia, is important, both in itself and in its implications. We may be sure, for example, that the corporations in this State, which are thinking of testing the constitutionality of the Public-Service Commission law, will instruct their counsel to read, mark, and inwardly digest this decision, before proceeding. The Virginia Commission is not,

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indeed, on all fours with the New York body. The former is a creation of the new State Constitution; the latter of the Legislature. The functions of the two are, however, in many respects similar. Both are empowered to fix rates. To do that was alleged by the Virginia railways, as by opponents of our Public Service Commission, to be a judicial act; and judicial powers cannot be delegated. But the Supreme Court has now decided that it is a legislative act. This does not mean that it is final, or cannot be inquired into by the courts. If its effect, in a given case, is confiscatory, its enforcement can be enjoined. But the act itself is not judicial. This being so held for Virginia, would surely be so held for New York also. By so much, therefore, the probability that our statute would be upheld by the Supreme Court as valid, is heightened by the decision.

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The prevailing opinion of the court goes a long way towards clearing up a dubious and disputed province of law—what may be called the twilight zone which lies between the State courts and the Federal courts. It will be remembered that efforts have been made in several States to prevent cases arising under railway-regulation laws from being taken before Federal judges. In some instances, severe penalties have been proposed for even attempting such a course. On this question of the fundamental right of appeal the opinion of the court, as read by Mr. Justice Holmes is very explicit:

> A State cannot tie up a citizen of another State, having property within its territory, invaded by unusual acts of its own officers, to suits for redress in its own courts.

So that is ended. At the same time, the Supreme Court is desirous, in practice, of showing all deference to the State courts. The gist of the decision is to send back the whole case for trial before the Virginia Court of Appeals. The railways should have exhausted their recourse for justice in the State before resorting to the Federal courts. Said Judge Holmes:

> The State had endeavored to impose the highest safeguards possible upon the exercise of the great power given to the Corporation Commission by providing for appeals to its highest courts. It was only a just recognition of the solicitude with which the rights of the railroads had been guarded that they should make sure that the State, in its final action, would not respect what they thought their rights to be, before resorting to the Federal courts. If the rate should be affirmed by the Court of Appeals, and the railroads should still regard it as confiscatory, they would be at liberty to renew their application to a Federal court.

This seems to be common sense, and it lays down a general rule which the Supreme Court may be expected to follow. It should do much to allay any feeling which may have been growing up that the Federal courts are too prone to ignore or over-ride the State courts. On the other hand, State Legislatures will doubtless be slower, after this decision, to boast that they have made their laws "injunction-proof."

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If Mr. Taft's choice of Mr. Hitchcock as his Postmaster-General is open to any censure, it is because Mr. Hitchcock was the campaign manager. In consequence, the appointment may appear to some as a payment for that labor. It must, however, be admitted that if Mr. Hitchcock had remained First Assistant Postmaster-General, his promotion would be hailed as particularly desirable. For Mr. Hitchcock, like Mr. Cortelyou, has worked his way up through the government service. Hence his appointment to the Cabinet should be another stimulus to the great body of civil servants in Washington. None the less, there should be more sensitiveness in regard to the practice of rewarding political managers with high office. Of course, a President must form his estimate of a man, in part at least, on the basis of services to the party. Had Mr. Hughes, for instance, not been reëlected Governor of New York, Mr. Taft would have done well to consider him for a Cabinet position because the Governor's great assistance during the campaign was a demonstration of capacity that should be enlisted in leadership. To obtain high office by intellectual contributions to party success is an historic and eminently proper way of advancing one's self. Since we cannot train our Cabinet ministers in Congress, after the good English fashion, it is especially legitimate to qualify as adviser to the President by proving one's fitness on the stump or in the party councils. It is when we come to the purely executive side of party management that drawing the line between the fit and the unfit is difficult. Critics will be moved largely by the effect of the example set by selecting Mr. Hitchcock, rather than by any objection to his promotion. They will doubtless ask whether it will not induce the mob already asking for minor offices to believe that the smaller places are also to go to men "who had their coats off during the campaign."

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Fortunately, we have made great progress since the days when only a few "doctrinaires" denied that the spoils belong to the victors. The civil service bars now guard our Presidents from that shocking rush for jobs, which, in Mr. Garfield's case, led to assassination. Rewards are less frequently given for mere machine work; and the publication of campaign contributions will make it more difficult, hereafter, to assign an office to a man merely because of his cash payment to the National Committee. For Mr. Hitchcock's case there is, of course, abundant precedent. Mr. Roosevelt early rewarded Hanna's right-hand man, Henry C. Payne of Wisconsin, by making him Postmaster-General. Mr. Cortelyou was already in the Cabinet when he managed Mr. Roosevelt's campaign of 1904, but his transfer to the Postmaster-Generalship came soon thereafter. Indeed, this office, with its enormous patronage, is by custom specially reserved for valiant party laborers, one reason, perhaps, why the postal service has never been more successful as a business enterprise. Justice to President Roosevelt demands, however, a recognition of the fact that in his distribution of Cabinet offices he has been much less guided by a desire to reward party workers or campaign contributors than by his wish to recognize the various elements in our cosmopolitan electorate. It has meant far more to him to give representation to our Jewish and Catholic fellow-citizens, and to have a genuine Southern Democrat at his Cabinet table. Whether Mr. Taft will be guided by similar motives remains to be seen. The promotion of Gifford Pinchot, who has been such an admirable Chief Forester, would meet with hearty approval. Anything that makes for efficiency, both in the Cabinet itself and out of it, will be acclaimed; and the oftener a man is appointed because of peculiar fitness, the more disreputable it will seem to put a man into the Cabinet merely for the money he has paid or the votes he can swing.

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Some of the advocates of protection show a curious obtuseness in regard to taking a personal interest in laws which will affect their own pockets. Mr. Dingley was a woollen manufacturer, but found no impropriety in working for increased duties on the product of his mills. Yet this was much as if a member of a city council or a head of department should have an interest in a contract upon which he himself was to pass officially. In principle, it comes pretty near the offence of Senator Burton of Kansas, who violated the statute forbidding members of Congress to act as attorneys for private clients before the government departments. But Representatives seem free to admit in the hearings by the Ways and Means Committee that they have a personal interest in certain tariff rates. Thus, when the lumber schedule was under discussion the other day, Congressman Joseph W. Fordney of Indiana remarked: "I have been in the lumber business ever since I was a boy." He also stated, alluding to lumber manufacturing: "I am in the manufacturing business in the South, in the State of Mississippi"; and again, referring to the lumber business on the Pacific Coast: "I am in the business out there." Even more striking was the case of ex-Congressman M. E. Rhodes of Missouri, who asked that the duty on barytes be increased from 75 cents to $5 a ton. He read from one of his own letters: "I have personal knowledge of the situation, because I am interested in the mining of barytes." He explained to the committee:

> When I was in Congress I introduced a bill in the Fifty-ninth Congress which sought to fix a specific duty of $5 a ton on crude ore, because I believed at that time that that would give us ample protection.

Thus protection appears to abrogate the maxim that a man shall not be judge in his own cause.

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The process of "chloroforming Tim" is now complete. The Taft cottage at Hot Springs witnessed the last act of the tragedy—or is it a comedy? After a conference on Sunday Mr. Woodruff announced his withdrawal from the race for the Senatorship in favor of Secretary Root. Of course, Mr. Woodruff "profoundly appreciates the unanimity and earnestness" with which he has been "appealed to by the organization and the members of the Legislature" from his "home county of Kings," and the "cordial offers of support" which have come to him "from every section and almost every county of the State." But with that delicacy of sentiment which has marked his whole political career he feels that "the power of the State organization should not be used by the chairman of the State Committee to further the candidacy of any one person against another." Moreover, Mr. Taft wishes to have Mr. Root in the Senate, and therefore Mr. Woodruff magnanimously makes the Great Renunciation. Of course, this means that there will be no opposition to Mr. Root's election. The only ominous feature of the affair is Mr. Taft's statement that Mr. Woodruff "has established his claim to the gratitude of the Republicans of New York, and also of the country at large." This looks as if Mr. Woodruff's claim to something "equally good" were in some way to be recognized.

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The decision of the Unionist Peers to kill the Licensing Bill in the House of Lords will intensify the difficulties of the Liberal Prime Minister. It had been plain for some time that the Lords would not accept the bill as it left the Commons, but it had been hoped that they would pass it with some amendments, especially as several bishops favored it as a temperance measure. The outright killing of the bill, therefore, raises once more the question whether Mr. Asquith will dissolve and appeal to the people, with a programme of radical reform of the Constitutional position of the Lords. Probably, the Premier will find it wisest to pocket this affront and wait until a break comes on some more vital question. The Lords have accepted worse bills—the Trade Disputes and Old-Age Pension Bills—without protest. They have thus laid themselves open to the charge that they rejected the Licensing Bill in order to favor "the trade," and to gain the popular support of those workingmen who want cheap beer.

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When the Viceroy of India abandons his inspection trip and returns to Calcutta heavily guarded, when lieutenant-governors and district superintendents are being attacked by bomb-throwers, Englishmen must take the Hindu disaffection seriously. The relatively small number of violent outbursts, news of which has leaked out through the dispatches, is still large enough to prove the strength of the new Nationalist movement among the natives. Japan's sudden rise has taught its lesson quickly, as everybody but a few civil service officials expected. And the Indian government must deal with the Nationalists, not as a pack of fanatics or murderers, but as a political party having a popular cause. English newspapers in India and at home are already conceding the wisdom of a policy of concession and conciliation. It may be, as the Calcutta *Englishman* holds, quite impossible for the British to give India a Constitution at once; there may be too many dishonest natives in power for that. But a progressive scheme of reform yielding steady increase of political knowledge, privilege, and influence to the governed is feasible—and ordained by the great awakening of the East.

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All the evidence indicates that the unpopularity of the German Emperor still continues. It was thought that his yielding to the Chancellor and the Reichstag, with public opinion so strongly behind them, would be greeted with a burst of joy and renewed loyalty. In fact, however, his act seems to have been received with a certain relief, it is true, but with little enthusiasm. The talk is still of a great constitutional crisis. One cause of this persistent coldness towards the Kaiser undoubtedly is that he made his concession appear both ambiguous and grudging. When a sovereign has to surrender, the wise thing is for him to do it heartily and completely. William II might have learned something from Elizabeth of England. When she and her Ministers fell into a controversy with the House of Commons and the nation, over the question of monopolies, the Queen knew how to retreat gracefully. Macaulay wrote:

> There seemed for a moment to be some danger that the long and glorious reign of Elizabeth would have a shameful and disastrous end. She, however, with admirable judgment and temper declined the contest, put herself at the head of the reforming party, redressed the grievance, thanked the Commons, in touching and dignified language, for their tender care of the general weal, brought back to herself the hearts of the people, and left to her successors a memorable example of the way in which it behooves a ruler to deal with public movements which he has not the means of resisting.

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### *DANGERS OF MAJORITIES.*

It is no surprise to find Gov. Hughes the same man after election that he was before. He has accustomed us to that; and his speech to the Republican Club of this city last week contained his familiar doctrine. To serve the whole State; to make fitness the sole test for appointments to office; to advocate measures which are sound, whether they are immediately popular or not; and to do the thing that is right, whether it be considered politic or otherwise—such is the programme which this just and tenacious man marks out for himself and his party. One incidental sentence of the Governor's contains a good deal of political philosophy:

> Our chief danger lies in the fact that we have been given such a strong endorsement that we may forget the promises we have made.

It takes a cool and balanced head to see peril in a great political success, and to fear that the very disorganization of the other party may be a snare to your own. This idea found a spokesman in the recent conference in London about methods of electoral reform. A deputation waited upon the Prime Minister to ask that an inquiry be made into minority representation and other plans, before drafting a bill. In the course of the discussion, Lord Hugh Cecil declared that the great majorities of the last few years had been a misfortune to both parties and to the country. He referred impartially to the large preponderance of his own party in the last House of Commons, and to the immense majority of the Liberals in the present. In both cases, he maintained, the majority in representation did not really indicate so great a set of public opinion. The result was that party leaders were tempted to be careless and vainglorious, too indifferent about needed legislation, and unduly confident of the strength of their position, even when on the eve of defeat. This view is borne out by political experience in our country as well as in England. It is wise counsel which Gov. Hughes gives his party. Mr. Taft, too, is plainly of the same mind—namely, that it is well to rejoice in the sweeping victory at the polls, but that it is the part of wisdom to rejoice with fear and trembling. Great majorities mean great responsibilities. Obstacles to be avoided or surmounted in an electoral campaign are often trifling compared with the difficulties of guiding the party aright after success is won.

The danger presents itself in two forms: first, as a temptation to be lazy; second, as an invitation to be reckless. It is easy for a party returned to power by a large majority to forget that its chief duty is not to enjoy the sweets of office. Pressure for appointment is the first thing that a new Governor or new President feels. It might seem to him as if the only aim of a popular uprising in an election was to find a place for Smith, and to vacate one for Jones. Gov. Hughes said that his desk at Albany was piled high with applications for office. But he took up the matter as one of the besetments of an executive with a victorious party behind him. It will never do for a party to say to itself that it has much spoils laid up for many years, and that all it has to do is to eat, drink, and be merry. By such a course it only points itself out as a fit subject for punishment by the voters—and elections often indicate the popular desire, not to approve of one party or the other, but to punish it.

The other danger which a great political majority brings with it is proneness to be extreme and overbearing. Moderation is one of the last lessons a certain order of politicians ever learns. Their instinct is to say, "What is a majority for except to be used for all it is worth?" Some measure born of party greed or personal selfishness is pressed forward. In an evenly balanced condition of parties, it could never be enacted; but a Prime Minister or a boss with a "fine brute majority" at his command, will see the chance to apply it, and will find it hard to resist. Yet true political leadership will always attempt to curb such impulses on the part of those who think themselves forever in control of government. This kind of political pride goeth before destruction. Party chiefs who think of a temporary or accidental majority merely as a means of furthering their own ends, and riding rough-shod over the other side, are simply preparing for themselves a day of judgment. When it comes, and they, in their turn, go down in electoral ruin, they will discover too late that they had used their large majority as a rope to hang their party with.

So well established is this frequently fatal nature of a majority, that it almost seems as if a law of party suicide were at work. Sea and land are compassed to secure a majority; yet the direct tendency of it appears to be to lead to a minority next time. The real task is, not only how to get a majority, but so to use it that it may be both kept and respected. That is the study to which party leaders should give their thoughts and vigils. It is evident that Gov. Hughes is at work on this great problem of political power; and we look forward to his recommendations to the Legislature as instruction in the way truly to utilize and safeguard a party majority.

### *THE SOCIALIST SHOWING.*

The canvassing of the vote cast by the minor parties on election day has not been completed, but enough is at hand to show that Mr. Debs failed to come into his expected million by more than five hundred thousand votes. Socialists admit that the result of the election has been a disappointment, but refuse to call it a defeat. You cannot defeat a party which has so sure a mortgage on the future as all true Socialists believe they hold. Ever since Karl Marx demonstrated, to the satisfaction of those who subscribe to his theories, that the iron laws of evolution make the triumph of collectivism over the present economic system inevitable, his followers the world over have adopted the cheerful philosophy of looking upon every victory as a fulfilment of the Marxian prophecy, and every setback as only a postponement. Optimism naturally thrives on success, and there can be no denying that international Socialism has, in the very matter of its numerical growth, been successful to a degree calculated to turn the head of any high-spirited young party. With prosperity there may have come certain departures from the early rigidity of theory and practice. Socialist politicians, anxious to gain votes, have not disdained to make use of temporary or local issues. But in the end it is always the same great argument they fall back upon. "You can't beat us; we are bound to win in the long run because we have on our side the great law of evolution as summed up in our 'materialistic conception of history.'"

Why should the materialistic theory of history guarantee the success of Socialism? The reasoning is straightfor-

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ward. Historical evolution is shaped, not by ideas, but by mechanical necessity. The moral ideals of society, its religious creeds, its political, legal, and social institutions, are all the outgrowth of economic conditions. This may be sneered at as a glorified sovereignty of the stomach, but there are your facts. In the long result, it is the producers who shape and rule society, and history is the story of conflict between a class of producers who would retain their control over society after their usefulness is gone, and a new class of producers struggling to come into its own. But it is evident that democracy has put power into the hands of the great mass of the world's workers. Hence these masses are ultimately bound to change society so as to assure their own welfare and domination. Q. E. D. The materialistic conception of history is the great Socialist weapon against the Philistines. To argue upon this or that temporary political issue, moral issue, or even economic issue, is waste of time, when you know that at bottom it is food, clothing, and shelter that rule the world. Injunction planks, monetary reforms, popular election of Senators, morality, patriotism, are all instruments of delusion. The materialistic theory of history teaches us that men in the last resort are swayed by the question of more food, more clothing, and more shelter. And in that game we Socialists hold the winning card.

But if the last election has proved anything, it ought to show the Marxians that their favorite weapon is one that cuts both ways. Bryan may hunt for explanations of what happened to him, and Debs may adduce this or that minor reason for the way he fared, but at bottom it is quite apparent that millions of workingmen and hundreds of thousands of business men who believed that Taft meant more food, clothing, and shelter than Bryan, voted for Taft. And if the Socialists need the consolation, we will grant it to them that many thousands who might have voted for Debs in prosperous times, refused to take a chance on Bryan's election when times were already pretty bad. Here, then, we have the materialistic theory and the economic man asserting themselves with a vengeance, but on the wrong side. If there is comfort in the thought that your pet theory has been shown to be correct, even if it is done at your own expense, that comfort is open to all good Socialists. If they assert that the workingmen who voted for Taft and more food will soon discover that the increased supply will not be forthcoming, the answer is that the discovery will come too late for the election of 1908, and will probably be forgotten before 1912. If Socialists were content to sit still and wait for the disillusioned workingman, after a half-century of disappointment, to cast himself into their arms, their confidence in the iron law of economic progress might, perhaps, be justified. But when they enter a specific political campaign on the issue of more food and shelter, in the future, they labor under the disadvantage of dealing with the ordinary man who prefers more food and shelter, in the present.

If the Socialist party really wishes for success at the polls, it will have to offer the voter something besides a distant, though perfect, social reconstruction based upon the materialistic conception of history. Wherever political Socialism has influenced public life, as in France, and to a less extent in England and Italy, it has been because of its readiness to deal with immediate issues of the day. Socialists must take sides on questions that can be solved from a socialistic standpoint without waiting for the establishment of the complete Socialist commonwealth. When they finally consent to deal with temporary issues, they may find out, too, that society is not so materialistic as the materialistic theory of history would have it, and that the economic man, on occasions at least, is something more than a consuming animal. They may find, for instance, that moral issues, patriotic issues, and even religious issues, are good for winning campaigns. Man has been known to give up food, shelter, and even life, for an idea. But he will rarely give up the nearer chance of food, shelter, and clothing, for a possibly greater amount of food, clothing, and shelter, far ahead.

## *THE HAPSBURG MONARCHY AND THE SLAVS.*

Austria's annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina has been explained as part of a new and aggressive policy. According to this theory, the virtual ruler of the Hapsburg realm is not the aged Francis Joseph, but his heir presumptive, Francis Ferdinand, to whom the main conduct of affairs has been delegated. Francis Ferdinand is a young man with ideals and a mind of his own; and among such ideals the principal one is said to be nothing less than the shifting of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy from its present double basis of German and Magyar equilibrium to a basis predominantly Slav. The future Emperor is credited with still wider aims. Once reorganized as a Slav power, Austria may make her way down into the Balkans, no longer a conqueror, but the natural ally and protector of the southernmost Slavs. And thus that historic goal of East European ambition, the open Ægean Sea, is reserved neither for Russia, whose eyes have been fixed on Constantinople for so many centuries, nor for the Pan-Germanists, who have been drawing a belt of Hohenzollern imperial rule from the Baltic, straight across Europe and over into Asia Minor, but for Austria-Hungary, which has seemingly been so concerned with her internal troubles as to have neither time nor inclination for visions of dazzling expansion.

This splendid Austrian hope, like most enthusiasms, has a certain justification in fact. The importance of the Slav element within the Austro-Hungarian dominions has been rapidly increasing. In numbers the Slavs grow faster than the Germans or the Magyars. In civilization they are overcoming the handicap which till now has given the control of affairs to the minority race both in Austria and in Hungary. The southern Slavs have still a long road to travel; agriculturists by nature and preference, they may never quite raise themselves to the intellectual level of the town-dwelling Germans and Magyars; but, after all, with the progress of democracy, numbers must begin to count more and more. In Austria universal suffrage has shattered the power of the Pan-Germanists. In Hungary the Magyar rulers are compelled by an extension of the franchise, grudging though the law is, to give a larger share in the government to the Slav races. The mere figures in themselves are impressive. In 1900, the forty-five millions of Hapsburg subjects comprised a little over eleven million Germans, less than nine million Magyars, perhaps three and a half millions of Romanic blood (Rumanians and Ladins), and

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twenty-two million Slavs. In the Austrian half of the monarchy the Slav majority was especially large, fifteen and a half millions, as against nine million Germans and a million Rumanians and Ladins. The rate of increase since 1900 has been in favor of the non-Germans. In addition, Bosnia-Herzegovina has just added nearly 1,700,000 subjects of Slavic blood; so that at the present moment the Slavs have an absolute majority within the realm as a whole, and are in a majority of two to one in Austria.

The tradition of the Slav's unfitness for political rule is a waning one. Only ten years ago it was the German students who carried things with a high hand at the University of Prague. To-day it is the Czechs who victoriously rush the poor Germans. The Czech renaissance in Bohemia has been described by well-informed observers as one of the most amazing, if little-known, developments of European history during the last twenty-five years. German influences in Bohemia are carrying on a losing fight. The German language, and German science and art, are not being wiped out by a new sort of barbarian invasion, but effectively replaced by a Slav culture. The southern Slavs, while intellectually backward, have shown great power of resistance. In Croatia-Slavonia they have doggedly held their ground in face of the drastic methods of their Magyar rulers. Their passionate resistance to Austrian domination in Bosnia is historical. Indeed, the annexation of Bosnia has been described by apologists for Austria (for example, Dr. Emil Reich in the *Nineteenth Century* for November) as forced upon the latter by a gigantic Slav conspiracy for the overthrow of Hapsburg rule. The Bosnian press has been outspokenly seditious, and the Austrian censorship has coped with it in vain. In short, the Slavic peoples of Austria-Hungary have been proving very emphatically that they were not predestined from the beginning of time to be political hewers of wood and drawers of water for their German and Magyar brethren.

These are the facts which are supposed to have given rise to the new policy of Austro-Hungarian reconstruction. The dual realm is to be transformed into a federal realm. Report speaks of a new doctrine, "trialism," which would add to the present two members of the monarchy, a third in the shape of a Slav state formed out of the southern provinces of Austria. But though "trialism" is being widely talked about in Austria, it is hard to see how it can ever be put into practice. The great mass of Austrian Slavs is not in the south. Out of Austria's seventeen millions, over thirteen millions are in Bohemia, Poland, Silesia, and Moravia; and it is certain that Bohemia, which has long claimed an equal position with Austria and Hungary, would have to be satisfied bofore an autonomous Slav state in the South could be created. But whether there are to be three, four, or more equal federal members, federalism and growing Slav ascendency would seem to be questions of the near future in Austria.

## MILTON AFTER THREE HUNDRED YEARS.

### I.

Dryden, we know, sometimes visited Milton, in whose eyes the young guest was "a good rhymist, but no poet." It is not difficult to frame an image of such a visit. Milton, we may suppose, was then occupying the house in Bunhill Row, opposite the Artillery-ground, where he resided for the last twelve years of his life, left to decay in ignoble privacy by the contemptuous tolerance of the court. There the old man might be found, now blind and poor and served by his unwilling daughters, "in a small chamber, hung with rusty green, sitting in an elbow chair [in which he liked to lounge with leg thrown over the arm], and dressed neatly in black; pale, but not cadaverous, his hands and fingers gouty and with chalk-stones." On such evil times had fallen the author of "Comus" and "Lycidas," whom "patriotic piety," as he wrote in that last pathetic letter spelled out so painfully to an ignorant amanuensis, "had almost left without a country."

From this visit the mind travels to another at the end of the century. The young visitor has now himself grown old, and takes his ease in the famous chair by the fire in Will's Coffee-house. The world had not dealt altogether gently with him, but he had moved with the stream, always at the head though obeying its least impulse, and by industry and genius had made himself the recognized dictator in the new society of wits. About his comfortable seat stood the chiefs of that society as at a *petit coucher*, glad to hear his opinion on some poem or play of the hour, proud to take a pinch of snuff from the great man's box, while at a distance crowded the aspirants, awaiting their time and eager to catch some stray word from the inner circle. Enter the room a young boy, thin and sickly and with large straining eyes, brought thither by an older friend that he may at least in later days say *tantum vidi*. Those, in fact, were the regretful words used afterwards by Pope in his first published letter to Wycherley.

As a pendent to these scenes should be added the words of the weightiest critic of the following century. "Milton's republicanism was, I am afraid," says Dr. Johnson, "founded in an envious hatred of greatness. . . . He thought woman made only for obedience, and man only for rebellion." And as a writer he was "to be admired rather than imitated." The honor of acknowledged authority was reserved for Dryden who had himself learned to yield. "The new versification, as it was called, may be considered as owing its establishment to Dryden; from whose time it is apparent that English poetry has had no tendency to relapse to its former savageness." Dr. Johnson did not see far into the future, was even unaware of the force of the movements making for "relapse" in his own day; but when the change came, it went not back to Milton, but to his more lawless predecessors. His peculiar union of a free fancy with a disciplined form has never dominated English letters, and he has remained always in essential things alone and unapproachable.

There is a sad lesson in the contrast of those two scenes, a warning whose full magnitude is seen only as we look back over the record of the three centuries since Milton's birth. In the one are typified the isolation and weakness that waited upon the fretful revolt against what Milton himself called "the sour leaven of human traditions"; in the other, the arrogance and narrowness of a revengeful reaction. Both are a commentary on the limits and meaning of change. Many things in those days when the England of the Tudors was passing into that of the Stuarts cried out plainly for reform. The pity is that, instead of a skilled hand to revive and cultivate, there was let into that garden a horde of ruthless vandals. It is a small thing in itself that for a while the imagination was distrusted under the Puritan régime, that the theatres were closed, the picture collections of Charles dispersed or destroyed, the churches made barren of their beauty, the poets silenced or driven into obscure places. That the land was for a time, in the language of Strafford, "frequent in combustions, full of massacres, and the tragical ends of princes"—this is only one of the passing events of history. But it was a matter of serious import for the whole future of England that this complete break in tradition left the imagination in its hour of triumph a prey to all sorts of pernicious influ-

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ences. When fire or commerce sweeps off the forest from one of our mountain sides, it is said that the trees have no power of resowing themselves; the land lies bare to wind and sun, and the lowland farms are deprived of their reservoir of fruitful waters. The trees may be replanted artificially by the hand of man, but too often the soil has been washed away, meanwhile, by exposure, and there is no assurance that ever such noble woods can be reared as when the original growth is trained and properly thinned. Something like that happened to English letters.

II.

When literature was restored with the Stuarts to London, it came back in a new guise, and, like the courtiers, in foreign dress. Unfortunately, it was in substance neither good English nor French. The form was borrowed from abroad, and the wit, but in character the heroic drama, to take the most conspicuous example, was removed by a whole world from the tragedy then flourishing in Paris. The forced aristocratic style and a certain air of unreality were transferred to the London stage, but the marvellous economy of art, the subtle penetration of human nature, the pure exaltation were for the most part exchanged for fury and fustian.

Nor was the old English spontaneity present to take the place of Racine's chastened idealism. It is a disagreeable fact that the excesses of the intervening prohibition left the door open for a revival of the worst, and only the worst, features of the Elizabethan drama. In their reaction from the passionate, if often misguided, morality of the Puritans, the new playwrights returned not only to the old lewdness, but to the barbarous lust for blood and horrors. The French banished even decorous death from the scene; but Dryden knew the temper of his audience when, in his "Amboyna," he showed the English merchants tortured by the Dutch, and in his "Indian Emperor" gloated over the execution of Montezuma.* And with this taste for the shambles, carried over from the Elizabethan stage and deprived even of its pretext of youthful extravagance, went the Marlovian defiance of egotism now a little absurd in the hearing of Charles's subservient court. The same contrast between form and substance runs through comedy and the other *genres* of the period. They were not merely immoral, but beneath all their laughter and polished wit, may be detected a vein of cynical indifference to suffering and at times a brutal cruelty. Those poets of the court, and one must add in his famous criticism, Charles Lamb also, forgot that a deliberate attempt to stimulate the animal passions is always destructive of the first purpose of art. The French may not have been less immoral than their imitators, but they had this instinctive sense of their craft. That first outbreak of the Restoration is not a savory chapter in the record of English letters.

*These illustrations are taken from Alexandre Beljame's "Le Public et les hommes de lettres." Students of English literature need not be told how thoroughly M. Beljame has worked out this whole subject.

III.

It is the teaching of a certain school of so-called scientific history that the changes of civilization are produced by large impersonal laws under whose sway individual men are as pawns in the game of fate. That theory is, perhaps, not quite so common now as it was a few years ago, and there would appear to be a reaction in favor of the directing influence of dominant minds. Certainly, if any great event can be attributed to the character of a few men, it was the crime of the seventeenth century in England, with all its attendant evils. In that month of spring in the year 1603 when James Stuart was riding south to take up his crown in London, a prophetic eye might have foreseen the troubles he and his sons were to cause. On the way the so-called Millenary Petition was presented to him by a band of moderate and conforming Puritans, who desired only a few unimportant changes in the service and prayer-book; one of the first acts of James at Hampton Court was to deny the Petition and to abuse the petitioners with a threat to "harry them out of the land." After that the history of England for two generations was a series of *ifs*, depending on the character of three or four men. Thus, if Prince Henry, with his objection to a Catholic marriage, had not imprudently chilled himself on the tennis court, and so left the throne to his brother Charles; if Charles at the beginning of his reign had not been bribed to accept the Petition of Right and so bound his hands; if Wentworth had been kept in England to raise a standing army, instead of being called back from Ireland when too late, and if Henrietta Maria, by meddling with the soldiers, had not brought him to the scaffold; if Charles had married a Protestant instead of a Bourbon princess; if he had chosen a wiser prelate than Laud; if he had not attempted to seize the five members of Parliament, or had planned the attempt more secretly; if the navy had not been wantonly alienated; if, in a word, James and Charles had not been at once so obstinate and so weak, they might either have succeeded in establishing, for a time at least, a monarchy like that raised in France on the ruin of the Fronde and the Reformation, or they might have guided their people through a bloodless and healthy revolution. But for the fanaticism of the king the opposing fanaticism of Pym and Lilburne and Cromwell would never have come to the top, crushing between them the moderate men who were the real strength, and, in the end, the salvation of England. For it is the very character of moderation that it should be helpless at first against the assaults of enthusiasm, and should come to its own, if at all, only after the frenzy of excess has exhausted itself. We shall never know the full tragedy of those moderate royalists, driven by harsh choice into the army, like Falkland, who threw away his life in order "that all might see that his impatiency for peace proceeded not from pusillanimity or fear to adventure his person"; or of those Puritans who felt to their friends in the other camp as Sir William Waller wrote to one on the eve of battle:

> My affections to you are so unchangeable that hostility itself cannot violate my friendship. We are both upon the stage, and we must act the parts assigned us in this tragedy. Let us do it in a way of honor and without personal animosities.

These were the men who bore the glorious tradition of the past—peace-loving gentlemen in the ranks, statesmen in the service of a blind king and a mad Parliament, poets and great preachers in hiding among the Welsh hills, subtle philosophers and divines like John Hales of Eton and the high-bred Platonists of Cambridge, whose voices were drowned by the shrill contending clamors, or who, more pitifully yet, felt the fires of hatred slowly kindling in their own breasts. These were the men, and not, as a modern historian says, the soldiers of Cromwell at Naseby, who might have "planted freedom in the deep, fruitful soil of antiquity." And they were the majority; it is undoubtedly true that, as Clarendon wrote, "the number of those who desired to sit still was greater than of those who desired to engage in either party." Their very desire for quiet growth, their "peace-ingeminating" spirit, prevented them from grasping rudely at the control of affairs; yet, so far as human reflection can discern, there was no reason why they should not have been led by wise authority to preserve the old tradition in the land, adding to it the strength and not the fury of the new light. Such a "patriot king," dreamed of idly by Bolingbroke when too late, might then have warded off the evil rebellion and the sordid reaction.

IV.

But these things lay in the lap of Chance, and Chance set over the land the man of all others fit to confound confusion. Yes, if there is any one truth to be guessed from the vicissitudes of that age it is the incalculable power of that Fortune whose whim, according to Julius Cæsar, and he should have known, governs mankind—*fortuna cuius libido gentibus moderatur*. Looking over the unnecessary calamities of

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those years, considering the inconsequence of great things and the fatality of contemptible things, and perceiving the tremendous and unending moral results that waited upon the hazard of one man's character, one may conceive that history was the work of such a Provident Deity as Bossuet proclaimed, who bends human affairs to his unfathomable arbitrary will, and who was laying upon England the punishment of distractions for her heresy, or one may humbly lower the eyes before that "Nothing" of the skeptical Earl of Rochester:

*Is*, or *is not*, the Two great Ends of Fate,
And, true or false, the Subject of Debate,
That perfect, or destroy, the vast Designs of Fate;—

but it is inconceivable that one continuous or parallel reign of mechanical law and reason governed that world of mishap, as Descartes and the men of science were beginning to teach. Physical cause and effect proceeded with immitigable regularity, and so with moral law, but where the two realms overlapped was an incommensurable disproportion, a strip of blind chaos, unknown and untravelled by reason, out of which came and went the busy emissaries of Chance.

And Milton was at once the victim and the agent of this lady of misrule. Fancy loves to evoke what might have been the reality, but was not. Instead of that scene in Bunhill Row, I behold our greatest poet, the darling and spiritual aid of a brave government, now in his reverend years, surrounded by "honor, love, obedience, troops of friends," handing on to his disciples the unquenched torch of England's mighty inspiration, and then turning finally to his quiet end—

And may at last my weary age
Find out the peaceful hermitage,
The hairy gown and mossy cell,
Where I may sit and rightly spell,
Of every star that heaven doth shew,
And every herb that sips the dew;
Till old experience do attain
To something like prophetic strain.

All the traits of his early works pointed him out for that high mission—the gravity of his character, his native mastery over words, his ineffable gift of harmony, his splendid imagination, his deep knowledge of human destinies. He alone might have accomplished what Ben Jonson had not the genius to do. He might have preserved the soaring inspiration of the Elizabethans, yet chastening it in form by his classical discipline, so that it should have remained a sound and authoritative model of art; and enlarging it to embrace both the forward-looking uplift of true Puritanism and the reverence for remembered gracious things of the Cavaliers, so that he should have imposed himself on the nation, not as one whose "predominant desire was to destroy rather than establish," but as indeed the "god-gifted organ-voice of England." Our life might have been ruled by him as Greek was moulded by Homer, to the avoidance of much wasted energy and of innumerable false starts. How nearly he missed his supremacy can be seen from the homage bestowed on his name at this centennial of his birth; yet a candid survey of our literature must still add that he has been in essential things a hero "admired rather than imitated."

V.

This failure is due, in part, to the deviation of the people from their natural course, but in no small part to the thwarting of the poet's own development. For it is undeniable that the effect of events was to exaggerate in Milton certain dangerous tendencies which might have been restrained and guided into virtues. One sees this more strongly perhaps in his prose than in his verse. It is a sad task to read his noble enthusiasm for true liberty in the "Reformation in England," published in 1641, and to think then of what was actually to come. Who does not know its peroration?—

O thou, that, after the impetuous rage of five bloody inundations, and the succeeding sword of intestine war soaking the land in her own gore, didst pity the sad and ceaseless revolution of our swift and thick-coming sorrows; when we were quite breathless, of thy free grace didst motion peace and terms of covenant with us; and having first well nigh freed us from anti-Christian thralldom, didst build up this Britannic empire to a glorious and enviable height, with all her daughter-islands about her; stay us in this felicity, let not the obstinacy of our half-obedience and will-worship bring forth that viper of sedition, that for these fourscore years hath been breeding to eat through the entrails of our peace. . . .

Then, amidst the hymns and hallelujahs of saints, some one may perhaps be heard offering at high strains in new and lofty measure to sing and celebrate thy divine mercies and marvellous judgments in this land throughout all ages. . . .

There is a note of magnificent expectation here that not Burke or any other was ever again to attain; and then, with that sound ringing in our ears, we turn to the leaden pedantries, the smouldering malignity, the hateful scandal-mongering of the two "Defensiones" written later by Milton as the official mouthpiece of the Commonwealth, to excuse to the world its criminal excesses. The change, with all it implies, is inexpressibly disheartening. Nor did he escape in more intimate matters. From upholding the false liberty of government he passed naturally, at the first pinch of circumstance, to a plea for personal license. In 1643 he married Mary Powell; in the same year, apparently before the honeymoon had ended, he was composing his address to Parliament on "The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce." But a little while before, in his "Reformation," he was saying: "Well knows every wise nation that their liberty consists in manly and honest labors, in sobriety, and rigorous honor to the marriage-bed"; and now he cannot endure soberly a few weeks of annoyance, but will for his relief rush in and alter the laws of the land. Because the experience of the race would hold him to an uncongenial bond, he must cry out against "the inveterate blots and obscurities wrought upon our minds by the subtle insinuating of error and custom." His argument is conducted with gross sophistries and wresting of Scripture texts. His thesis is, in Miltonic language, that "the pining of a sad spirit wedded to loneliness should deserve to be freed"; in the cant of modern tongues, that husband and wife who find themselves of incompatible temper should forthwith separate, without even recourse to a court, and seek their "affinities." In his indecent haste he has no regard for the obligation of contract or for the discipline and ultimate happiness of a mutual accommodation. The ways of Milton with his wives and daughters, make what apologies we can, are not the aspect of his life we care to dwell upon.

VI.

Fortunately, his poetry, as it moved in a more ideal sphere, escaped the worst of these evils; yet even here there is much to regret. Only national prejudice can be blind to the defects of "Paradise Lost." In his second period, says Taine,

An epic writer and a Protestant, enslaved by a strict theology, robbed of the style which makes the supernatural visible, deprived of the dramatic sensibility which creates varied and living souls, he accumulates cold dissertations, transforms man and God into orthodox and vulgar machines, and only regains his genius in endowing Satan with his republican soul, in multiplying grand landscapes and colossal apparitions, in consecrating his poetry to the praise of religion and duty.

The emphasis may be misplaced, there may be grave omissions, but as a whole that is likely to remain the honest opinion of the world in regard to our English Homer. The native-born will be carried by the sweep of Milton's language more lightly over these bogs, and the national ideals reflected in its plot will endear even its faults to patriotism; but a nicer judgment will always see much to offend. I do not believe there is in the literature of the world anything comparable to the fourth book of "Paradise Lost" for its extreme contrast of good and bad taste. From the evening hymn of Adam and Eve, with its exultant ecstasy of pure religion, we pass to echoes of a mean and wrangling theology, from the radiant glories of Eden spread before our view and from the loveliness of "espoused Eve," we are

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cast into a frigid Puritanical discussion "of purity, and place, and innocence." These contrasts are the measure of Time's injury. What that epic might have been, if Milton had brought to it the gravity of political experience without the exacerbation of faction, may be surmised from the flawless beauty of the last poem of any length written by him before he was caught into the political and religious vortex.

VII.

In the autumn of 1637, at the end of his "long holiday" at Horton, Milton was asked to contribute to a book of elegies celebrating the death of Edward King, a fellow of Christ's, Cambridge, where Milton had known him in his own college days. From this request came "Lycidas," the "touchstone of poetic taste," as Tennyson, speaking with authority, pronounced it to FitzGerald. It has been commonly observed that the poem contains little grief for a personal loss, but borrows its emotion from the larger religious issues then beginning to weigh upon the author's mind. The criticism is obvious. It should be added, however, that the poem is still an elegy, to the reader of to-day even more perhaps than to the writer, a magical dirge over an age passing away with its destiny unfulfilled. When we read the lament:

But, oh! the heavy change now thou art gone,
Now thou art gone and never must return!
Thee, shepherd, thee the woods and desert caves,
With wild thyme and the gadding vine o'ergrown,
And all their echoes mourn.
The willows and the hazel copses green
Shall now no more be seen
Fanning their joyous leaves to thy soft lays—

we should know that it is not the death of the obscure collegian that communicates to us the thrill of strange emotion, and that these metaphors of nature are not a meaningless convention; this heavy change is for the disappearance of a whole imaginative world, with its "wood notes wild." And so we may follow the poem through all its ebb and flow. The sorrow of Camus, and the shuddering denunciation of the Pilot of the Galilean lake, are not, as their sound reaches us now, solely for the evils of prelacy; we hear also the vulgar and hypocritic zeal of many Puritans who,

. . . when they list, their lean and flashy songs
Grate on their scrannel pipes of wretched straw.

And we remember the promise and lofty lives of those divines of Cambridge, of Benjamin Whichcote, a scholar there in Milton's day, and his companions, who refused the Covenant and took from Puritanism its enthusiasm without its intolerance—and all that promise made of no avail. And if at the end of the poem Milton rises to a height of celestial vision such as no poet before or after ever reached in English words, the joy of that prophecy is for us strangely mingled with pain. For one who can set himself apart perhaps, but in no wise for England, was that lost spirit made "the genius of the shore." While for Milton, who was then "mewing his youth" and preparing for his proud ambition of singing such things as the world would not willingly let die, there were no "fresh woods and pastures new," but the fields over which rolled the hideous clamor of civil war.

P. E. M.

## NEWS FOR BIBLIOPHILES.

The catalogues of portions of his great library which have been printed by J. Pierpont Morgan, have scarcely been noticed in the public press. The catalogue of the library of James Toovey, which he purchased entire, came out several years ago. More recently Mr. Morgan has issued a catalogue of manuscripts and early printed books, mainly from the libraries of William Morris, Richard Bennett of Manchester (who purchased the larger part of Morris's library), and the Earl of Ashburnham. The manuscripts form one volume and the printed books three, large quarto, from the Chiswick Press. Of the catalogue of manuscripts, prepared by M. R. James, five copies on vellum and 170 on paper have been printed; and of that of books, five on vellum and 120 on paper. The manuscripts described are Bibles, Missals, Psalters, and Horæ (but none of the modern manuscripts, such as have been recently exhibited at Columbia University), and the volume contains forty facsimiles in colors and five plates of bindings. The early printed books have been described by E. Gordon Duff, the late Robert Proctor, and others; the introduction is by Alfred W. Pollard. In some ways the most remarkable book in the list is the great Mainz Psalter of 1459, printed by Fust and Schoeffer, the Sykes-Thorold copy, for which Quaritch paid £4,950 in 1884, keeping the book in stock for over twenty years. The books printed in England include a long series of Caxtons, mostly from the collection of the Earl of Ashburnham. The catalogue is in every way a notable work.

The "Catalogue of Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century Now in the British Museum" is to appear at an early date. It is in six parts. The twenty-nine plates will give reproductions of more than 240 types used at Mayence, Strasburg, Bamberg, and Cologne.

An exhibition commemorative of the tercentenary of the birth of Milton will be held at the Grolier Club in this city December 4 to January 9.

The second portion of the library of Henry W. Poor will be sold by the Anderson Auction Company of this city December 7, 8, and 9. Among important older books are: a manuscript Latin Bible, dated at the end 1425; several manuscript Books of Hours of the fifteenth century; Dante's "Divina Commedia," with Landino's commentary and with three (only) copper plates by Botticelli; the Aldine Horace of 1519, and several other books from the Aldine Press; and thirteen items from the Elzevir Press, including De Laet's "Novus Orbis seu Descriptionis Indiæ Occidentalis" (1633), pages 101 to 110 of which contain a description of New Netherlands. Of early English literature this part includes: Roger Ascham's "The Scholemaster" (1571), second edition; Montaigne's "Essaies" (1603), the first edition of Florio's translation; Chapman's translation of the Iliad (about 1611), the first complete edition, lacking six leaves at the end; Killigrew's "Works" (1644), first edition; Marlowe's "Dr. Faustus" (1663); Donne's "Poems" (1639), and John Davies's "Summa Totalis" (1607). The McKee copy of Robert Hayman's "Quodlibets, lately come over from New Britaniola, Old Newfoundland" (1628), a curious book, in verse, is the most important early item of Americana. There are many first editions of nineteenth century authors, among them such rarities as Bryant's "White-Footed Deer" (1844), Lowell's "*Il Pesceballo*" (1862), earliest issue, and his "Vision of Sir Launfal" (1848); Hawthorne's "Gentle Boy" (1839), and the rare second edition of "The Celestial Railroad" (1847); Holmes's "Poems" (1836); Longfellow's "Ballads" (1842), a presentation copy in the original boards; George Eliot's "The Legend of Jubal and Other Poems" (1874), one of twenty copies printed on thick paper, with an important A. L. S. of the author referring to the book inserted; Tennyson's "Poems of Two Brothers" (1827), large paper copy; also the privately printed "Sailor Boy" (1861); Scott's "Waverley" (1814) and "Ivanhoe" (1820), and Thackeray's "Virginians," in parts. Among important sets are *Notes and Queries*, 119 vols., and a complete set of the publications of the Folk-Lore Society of London, 50 vols. in cloth, and 23 parts in paper covers. The frontispiece of the catalogue is a reproduction, in colors, of the binding of Mr. Poor's copy of William Loring Andrews's "New Amsterdam, New Orange, New York," one of the *thirty Japan paper copies*. Another reproduction shows the binding of Brown's "Self Interpreting Bible," New York, 1792, described as probably the finest specimen of early American book-binding in existence. This volume was shown, November, 1907, at the Grolier Club exhibition of American book-binding before 1850.

In Hodgson & Co.'s sale, London, November 6, the first edition of "Gulliver's Travels," large paper, with the frontispiece portrait in the correct first state, brought £85. Other important items sold as follows: Burton's "Anatomy of Melancholy" (1621), first edition, £28; a set of *Botanische Zeitung*, £43; Andrew's "Geraniums," two volumes, £21.

At a sale of autographs and manuscripts at Sotheby's, London, November 16 and 17, the original assignment by John Keats to Taylor & Hessey, the publishers, of the copyright of his two books, "Poems" and "Lamia, Isabella, the Eve of St. Agnes, and Other Poems," dated September 16, 1820, brought £50. Other prices were: Charles V of France, sign manual to an ordinance, of date 1356 to 1360, £49; Edward VI of England, sign manual to a warrant, £54; Henrietta Maria (Queen of Charles I), A.L.S., £20; Charles Lamb, interesting A.L.S., £21; and Cotton Mather, A.L.S., accompanied by the mezzotint portrait by Pelham, £38.

At C. F. Libbie & Co.'s sale at Boston,

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November 23-25, a fine copy of Penhallow's "History of the Wars of New England With the Eastern Indians" (Boston, 1726), brought $530, the record price; Whittier's "Moll Pitcher" (1832), original paper covers, somewhat faded, $370, also the record. No copy with both covers has heretofore been offered at auction, though there is one in this condition in the Chamberlain collection. Another valuable item was Poe's "Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque" (1840), two volumes bound in one, the copy given by the author to "Miss Anna and Miss Bessie Pedder," with autograph inscription, $290. Other prices were: FitzGerald's "Euphranor" (1851), the author's first book, $30; his "Polonius" (1852), $21; and "Agamemnon" (1876), $11, all first editions; Mrs. Eddy's "Science and Health" (1875), first edition, $70, and the first edition of Vol. II, 1878, $53; and a mezzotint portrait of Washington, "Published March 14, 1801, by J. Hinton," $85.

The price of Beverley's "History of Virginia," in the Poor sale, was $100 instead of $180, as given in this column a week ago. Since the book seldom sells for as much as $50 at auction, and since it is not uncommon, even $100 may be called an absurd price.

# Correspondence.

## TARIFF REFORM AND A RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: An article in your paper of November 19 leads to the following reflections: that there never will or can be any effective reform of the tariff till the whole subject is placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury, dealing at once with expenditure and revenue and entrusted with the duty of preparing, presenting, and defending in open session of Congress a plan of reform; that this plan and no other, and without modification except such as he chooses to accept, shall, after reasonable discussion, be put to a vote. What the ultimate result may be is another question, but the necessity of going so far may be easily shown.

For this purpose, let us consider the course of legislation. The composition of both houses is the same. Both are made up of representatives of local districts. There is nobody representing or clothed with authority to speak for the whole as a unit. The duty of each member is to look after the interests of his own constituents, and only to a very limited extent after those of others. It is an old saying that what is everybody's business is nobody's. Any member of both houses can introduce as many bills as he pleases, upon any subject he pleases, and all are thrown into committees of these local members. Log-rolling and trading, with a complete absence of personal responsibility, are the inevitable result. The executive, which alone represents the whole country and the administration of the government, is never heard at all, unless summoned or admitted before the committees. Its only means of influence is to join the universal practice of lobbying, and it can never be held to any responsibility except by a process of impeachment. It is not rash to say that if there were a Democratic President and a Democratic majority in both houses, private interests would still rule, and the fortress would still remain impregnable. The condition of things is so absurd as to be almost incredible, if it did not rest on a stubborn basis of fact; and, what adds greatly to the interest, it is repeated with slight modifications in every State, and in principle in every city in the Union.

On February 4, 1881, a unanimous report of a committee of eight members of the Senate recommended the admission of the members of the Cabinet to Congress on certain days and under certain conditions, in conformity with the practice of almost every other government in the civilized world. The absorption of all power by the Legislature has prevented since the slightest attention to that plan.

The history of tariff reform in Great Britain in the first half of the last century and the maintenance of free trade ever since furnish an illustration of the strongest and most concrete kind, and the first step towards the introduction of the principle here must be made, if at all, by diverting attention from the product to the machinery. The Federal government is on too large a scale to furnish original results, but the initial experiment is perfectly easy in any one of the forty-six States, and only needs a little insight and resolution on the part of a Governor to win for himself and his State a world-wide and lasting renown. G. Bradford.

Boston, November 23.

## WHY AMERICANS ARE NOT POLYGLOTS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: May I say a word on the subject recently discussed in the article entitled "Underlanguaged Americans" (October 15)? When the writer says that "habit, propinquity, utility, the constant mingling of peoples and languages, have helped to make the Continentals the linguists they are," I believe that he gives the real causes; but when he goes on to say that "the chief reason of their superiority to us is their better teaching of modern languages in the schools," I cannot agree with him. The real cause above all others of the Continental's superiority to us is, I hold, "propinquity." From this arises "constant mingling of peoples and languages," from this comes "utility," and a combined result of all these is "habit." We shall find that the inhabitants of small countries, surrounded as they are by people of different tongues, are *forced* to become polyglots. Even though it be not uncommon for a Belgian to speak English, French, German, and his own Flemish, yet no one would maintain that superiority in such a case is due to better instruction in the schools. It is due to pressure from without. A widespread practice originating in necessity may develop into a national trait, but the extent to which "habit" does determine the Continental's aptitude toward the acquisition of other languages cannot be accurately measured and gives room for wide speculation.

The most tangible incentive to the learning of foreign tongues is, beyond doubt, "utility" or expediency, and so it has ever been. The Greeks and the Romans had to learn something of the languages of their subjects. In modern times the English had to gain some acquaintance with the tongues of India. At the close of our war with Spain, when it seemed probable that Spanish would be of practical use, many Americans in a short time learned to speak Spanish.

All concede that instruction in a German gymnasium is excellent, for the thoroughness of German scholarship is incontrovertible testimony of the thorough groundwork laid in the lower schools. But one thing seems certain, and that is that the teaching of English as a living language in the German universities will not bear comparison with the teaching of German or French in our best colleges. Any one who has visited the classes in a German university will readily admit this.

Among scholars I maintain that it will seldom happen that the more common modern languages will not be understood. "Professor Royce's paper," you say, "was easily followed by the audience" of scholars at Heidelberg. But such an assembly is not quite parallel to the Tuberculosis Congress at Washington. A nearer parallel would be such a meeting as was held at the opening of the Harvard Graduate School in 1904. At that time several addresses were made in German and French by distinguished visitors and they were "easily followed by the audience" and were "applauded throughout." It is true that Professor Sievers of Leipzig spoke in English, but we must now recall the fact that last year President Hadley was able to address his Berlin audience in German. I believe that ability to speak or understand a foreign tongue is as widespread among the scholars of this country as of any other country. It is the general mass of people that is deficient in this respect, and only when it becomes a matter of expediency—a question such as faces the Continentals to-day—can we expect the "underlanguaged Americans" to become glib polygots. G. C. Scoggin.

University of Missouri, Columbia, November 20.

## A TRANSLATION OF FEUCHTERSLEBEN'S "ZUR DIÄTETIK DER SEELE."

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: In your issue of November 19 is an interesting letter of Gustav Pollak on a "Physician of the Soul, Seventy Years Ago," in which the statement is made that Feuchtersleben's "Zur Diätetik der Seele" (The Hygiene of the Soul) has never been translated into English. I have in my library a translation into English of Feuchtersleben's work, with the title, "The Dietetics of the Soul." This translation, on its title page, is said to be "edited by Col. H. A. Ouvry, C.B., and revised from the thirty-second German edition." It bears the imprint, London: Kerby & Endean. 1873. James W. Holland.

Philadelphia, November 20.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Your issue of November 19 contains a communication from Mr. Gustav Pollak, in which, speaking of Ernst Baron von Feuchtersleben's "Zur Diätetik der Seele," he says: "It has never been translated into English." Mr. Pollak is in error. For many years I have been the possessor of an

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English translation of the work. I do not know who made the translation. It seems to have been well done. The title page of the book is as follows:

The Dietetics of the Soul by Ernest von Feuchtersleben, M.D. Valere Aude. Edited from the Seventh Edition. New York; C. S. Francis & Co., 252 Broadway. Boston; Crosby, Nichols & Co. MDCCCLVIII.

O. K.

Detroit, November 28.

# Notes.

The British League of the Empire will soon publish a "Text Book of the History of the British Empire," prepared under the general supervision of an editorial committee, of which Prof. J. B. Bury, Regius professor of modern history at Cambridge, is chairman; A. F. Pollard, professor of history at the University of London, will edit the book. Professor Pollard has himself written the section treating of the United Kingdom. The Canadian section has been written by Lawson Grant; the New Zealand section by Dr. F. W. Pennefather; and the West Indian section by N. Darnell Davis. Other contributors are: Sir Frederick Pollock, A. W. Jose, Dr. A. J. Herbertson, E. I. Carlyle, R. W. Frazer, and H. W. Wilson. A part of the gift of £5,000 to the league by the late Louis Spitzel will be used in producing the work, which will be sold at such a low price as will bring it within the reach of a large number of readers.

On the ground of expense, the British government has decided to discontinue the calendaring of the Acts of the Privy Council of England, on the completion of that service with respect to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, ending in 1603—a service upon which Sir John Dasent has been engaged for the last twenty years. At the same time, provision has been made for the publication of calendars of such of the Privy Council Records as relate to America and the West Indies. This work has been intrusted to Lawson Grant, the assistant lecturer, since 1906, to the Beit professor at Oxford. His first calendar, expected this month, will cover the years to 1680 (June). Most of the volumes of acts between 1603 and 1610 are missing, but abstracts of some of these are preserved at the British Museum. Some of the papers calendared have already been noted in the Calendars of the Colonial Series of State Papers, issued by the Public Record Office, but they will be treated at greater length in Mr. Grant's calendar. The bulk of the matter will provide fresh material for the history of the colonial period of the United States.

"Race Questions and Other American Problems," by Prof. Josiah Royce (The Macmillan Co.) consists of five addresses, each containing some practical application of the doctrine of life elucidated in Professor Royce's recent volume, "The Philosophy of Loyalty." The application is most direct in the last chapter, which deals with the need of healthful development on the motor side if the whole human organism is to be made an effective instrument of loyalty to worthy causes. The kind of loyalty defined and supported as a proper motive in athletics is, of course, carefully distinguished from that form which merely gathers enormous crowds of excited humanity and rends the air with shouts but does not think. Unfortunate social conditions have harmfully influenced the ethics of athletic sports by subjecting them to the confused and unprincipled sentiments of great crowds of people. There must be clear-headedness, self-possession, if the latent moral benefit is to be realized. "Nobody can learn loyalty from mobs. The Harvard Stadium is an admirable place when it is not too full of people." In all these chapters "clear-headedness" is really as important a key word as "loyalty" itself. The initial chapter, "Race Questions and Prejudices," is chiefly an exhortation to get rid of stupid pre-judgments, resting on untenable foundations, and look on the individual possibilities and interrelations of races in the calm light of reason and evidence. The second chapter is noteworthy for its forcible plea for a clear-headed "provincialism," that intelligent loyalty to the lesser group which is needed to save the individual from the levelling tendencies of the age. Humanity, patriotism, all the legitimate interests of broader scope, will best thrive only as the smaller community shall live its own life, and not the life of any other community, nor yet the life of a mere abstraction called humanity in general. Outside influences upon the smaller group are inevitable, but a clear-headed provincial self-consciousness and pride will control and assimilate these influences, not fall and be crushed by them. The levelling spirit of the time gives the mere crowd, reading the same newspapers, thoughtlessly accepting the impressions of the mass, and liable at any moment to be swept into folly and crime when some special excitement transforms the mass into the mob. In the rightly constituted social group, on the other hand, each one feels his separate responsibility, individual reacts beneficially upon individual, and the combined result may be a wisdom superior to that of any separate member of the group, not a folly of which each one independently would be wholly incapable, as in the case of the mob. Apart from the strong common sense of his views and their bearing upon the immediate problems of life, Professor Royce wields an uncommonly lucid and forcible pen. This volume makes a plain and important appeal to any intelligent man or woman, and should have a wide reading.

"Recollections of a Varied Career," by William F. Draper (Boston: Little, Brown & Co.), is the story of a life that is interesting and remarkable. Born in 1842, Gen. Draper came in boyhood into the environment of the well-known Hopedale Community, in Massachusetts, working in mills of which his father, uncle, and other relatives were managers. Enlisting as a soldier, he followed during the civil war the fortunes of the Ninth Corps, at New Berne, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Vicksburg, and Knoxville. In 1864, in the Wilderness, he was severely wounded, but was absent from his place only for a brief space. He was in the front before Petersburg, reaching the rank of general at the age of twenty-two. A place awaited him in the Hopedale mills, where he rose rapidly to a chief position, exhibiting mechanical ingenuity as well as business shrewdness. The mills became highly profitable largely through his efforts, whereupon Mr. Draper entered upon still another field. He was elected to Congress where he presently made a good reputation. It would do him injustice to suppose he promoted a high tariff for any other reason than what he thought to be the public good; but all the same he feathered well his own nest thereby, and doubtless the Hopedale Company was entirely satisfied to have a partner engrossed in such legislation. Finally, Mr. Draper exchanged Congressional for diplomatic service, becoming minister to Italy, where his good sense, geniality, and aptness in foreign tongues, backed up by a handsome fortune, made his incumbency rather memorable. In all his varied life, as soldier, business manager, legislator, and diplomat, this typical American seems to have always fallen upon his feet, and yet it may be suspected that his very versatility has been a snare to him, as to many another capable man. His widely differing undertakings interest him about equally; he pursues each in turn with zeal, but presently drops it for another. In no line does he reach the top. His brilliant opening as a soldier is cut short by circumstances. Possibly his heart was more in this life than any other; he gave it up apparently with regret, and would gladly have returned to it if he could, during the war with Spain. Though his mechanical ingenuity is marked, he does not carry out the aptitude to the point of becoming a noted inventor. Though a good manager of affairs he cannot be classed among the famous captains of industry. At Washington, he is wide awake and adroit rather than solidly able and statesmanlike. He discharges efficiently the duties of a second-class mission, but his narrative here offers pleasant gossip about high society rather than sober discussion of the international problems which profoundly vex the nations.

In reading "Ocean Life in the Old Sailing Ship Days" (Little, Brown & Co.) one is constantly led to wish that better use had been made of the abundant material at the disposal of its author, Captain John D. Whidden of Boston; for occasionally he essays a literary flight outside his usual record in log-book style, and these excursions seldom fail to interest, instruct, or amuse. The story he tells is of a simple and worthy life, spent until 1870 in the merchant service, whose ways and customs are truthfully and sympathetically described. When the demand for quick freights in swift sailing vessels disappeared, the American mercantile marine practically vanished from the face of the waters and the writer wisely sought occupation ashore. The real cause of this decline he finds in our protective system which has resulted, as he justly perceives, in shutting us out of the one field where free trade must always prevail:

With the ending of the war all hoped that the tariff, especially on shipping, would be reduced, to enable our shipyards to again resume building, and enter into competition for the world's carrying trade, where we had lost prestige; but it was not to be. The tariff was still kept on, the same as during the war, and no one, under these conditions, was insane enough to build. The carrying trade of the world that should have been in American bottoms was allowed to slip from us, and with

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it one of our finest New England industries—shipbuilding.

Our legislators should read these pages written in unconscious support of the present movement to strike the tariff shackles from American industries.

"Out-of-Doors in the Holy Land," by Dr. Henry Van Dyke (Charles Scribner's Sons), is an account of a trip to Palestine made on condition of writing out the impressions of the journey for *Scribner's Magazine*. The little volume is dainty, charmingly illustrated with a dozen colored plates, in fine, a beautiful picture book of the Holy Land and a suitable gift book for Christmas. There is nothing new in it, and yet the author has added to the literature of the Holy Land something worth having in the record of impressions made by the land itself, its people, and its pilgrims on a devout and poetic soul. Palestine was, in a certain sense, a religious revelation to Dr. Van Dyke, and that revelation he has sought to transmit to his readers. Seeing with sympathetic eyes and interpreting with much insight, he casts a glamour of love and reverence on barren hills and fond superstitions. Part of this effect he has endeavored to convey by a series of poems interspersed among the chapters of description. In versification and spirit these poems remind one partly of Walt Whitman, partly of the Bible. To some they will doubtless seem beautiful and original; to others, only prose reflections of greater originals. The narrative passages are generally charming, despite some little affectations. The basis of the book, as set forth in the preface, Dr. Van Dyke's "new conviction that Christianity is an out-of-doors religion," may prove of use to those who have been trained to look at the Bible only as a collection of theological texts. But we venture to think that the "out-of-doors" in Palestine would not so greatly impress any observer were it not for the meaning of the land itself to the world. This fact Dr. Van Dyke brings out in the chapter in which, passing over from the ruined cities of Decapolis and the grander trans-Jordanic region to Palestine proper, he thus describes the difference which makes the latter, not the former, the country of real interest:

> In the little land between the Jordan and the sea things came to pass which have a more enduring significance than the wars and splendors, the wealth and culture of Decapolis. Conflicts were fought there in which the eternal issues of good and evil were clearly manifest. Ideas were worked out there which have a permanent value to the spiritual life of man. Revelations were made there which have become the guiding star of succeeding generations.

"Washington: The City and the Seat of Government," by C. H. Forbes-Lindsay (Philadelphia: The John C. Winston Co.), contains excellent illustrations, some twenty-five photogravures. The book itself, bound in red and gilt, resembles a style of literary product that used to lie on drawing-room tables, half a century ago. The text takes you along in that smoothly flowing way characteristic of the newspaper man who is doing his best to fulfil an engagement to "write up" the subject. Mr. Forbes-Lindsay is no better and no worse than the average of his class of hack-writers. He is serious, and he is, up to a certain point, painstaking, but he is not entertaining. Out of old material he has constructed a book that will meet the requirements of the reader who is not particular about accuracy in respect to minor details. What he has to deliver about the Supreme Court of the United States for example (p. 378) indicates that he is well beyond his depth, though only a lawyer might suspect the fact. Again, of Mr. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury, he says (p. 164) that being "sent [in 1824] to the country for his health," he "betook himself to a remote house on Clement Hill, where at present Fourteenth Street intersects Massachusetts Avenue." As a matter of fact, upon elevated ground at the spot he mentions, Charles Hill, a wealthy land-owner, built in early days a large house—now owned by the Episcopalians as a bishop's residence. A nephew, Clement Hill, lived on H Street, in a house later occupied by George Bancroft. It is hardly needful to remark that no such locality as Clement Hill ever existed in Washington. In an appendix Mr. Forbes-Lindsay reprints a portion of an interesting little book (now out of print), "The Reminiscences of Christian Hines." There is no excuse for leaving out whole sentences of Christian Hines's text—jumbling together names and putting persons in squares where they do not belong. This book, to speak plainly, has no historical value. The ground has been recently travelled over by other writers, who are more entertaining and less inaccurate than is the present author.

The fifth volume of the translation of the "Memoirs" of Dumas (The Macmillan Co.) concerns itself with the years 1831-32. It begins with political riots, fantastic and short-lived military organizations, plots and counter plots, the machinations of courtiers, the social unrest, more Parisian than national, that made Louis-Philippe uneasy on his throne. It carries the reader through a world of anecdote, character sketches, public and domestic comedy and tragedy, until it ends with comments not serene, and criticisms far from suave, on the chief dramatic, literary, and artistic affairs of the day. They are truly "memories" (more or less trustworthy), always in the unresting manner of the romancer's own life, with nothing of the natural pensiveness of retrospect. Pages of irrelevant and monosyllabic conversation are followed by others so full of matter as to make reading a serious matter of unpacking. Still, the numerous stories and the author's amusing naïveté make the volume, like its predecessors, entertaining to dip into.

Christopher Hare has paraphrased Baldassare Castiglione's "Cortegiano" in an attractive volume entitled "Courts and Camps of the Renaissance" (Charles Scribner's Sons). "Paraphrased" is hardly a comprehensive enough word, because Mr. Hare not merely epitomizes the book itself, but gives a discursive account of Castiglione's life and of the stirring events which he saw. Castiglione's biography was well worth presenting in this fashion, and "The Courtier" is always in order. The contacts which such a man had with the great ones of his age, furnish a better insight into the human side of the renaissance than we often get when our attention is primarily directed to Alexander VI, or Julius II, or to the ambitious princes who competed for secular prizes. Castiglione's career and example remind us that a good man could succeed in an age which seemed callous to virtue. Many portraits from well-known paintings enhance the impression of reality which Mr. Hare's agreeable narrative makes upon us.

Students of Italian history may care to know that Prof. Luigi Colini Baldeschi has completed the task of classifying the very rich archives of Cingoli and will soon publish a detailed report of their contents. Cingoli is one of those towns in the Marches which passed through an era of marked economic and social development between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries. Much of the historical material of this period has been lost; some has been published, but a large amount remains unexplored in town and parish records. The manuscripts of Cingoli, which are among the most valuable, begin in the first years of the twelfth century; and the documents of the first decades of the thirteenth century are especially numerous.

Zanichelli of Bologna announces the early publication of the nineteenth volume of Carducci's writings. It is now evident that it will be impossible to complete this edition in twenty volumes as originally announced. Even thirty volumes may not suffice, if the numerous introductions which Carducci wrote for Barbèra's Diamond Editions are included. The reprinting of these prefaces begins in the forthcoming volume, which bears the title, "Melica e Lirica del settecento con altri studi di varia letteratura." The contents include studies of Pietro Metastasio, Giovanni Fantoni, Ugo Foscolo, Alberto Mario, the erotic and lyric poets of the eighteenth century, and an unpublished essay upon the Court of Rome, based upon some letters from the Abbot A. Niccolini to Monsignor G. Bottari. It is also announced that a committee of French and Italians has been formed to erect a monument to Carducci in Paris.

"Dante e la Lunigiana" (Milan: Ulrico Hoepli) comprises nearly a dozen essays, written by Italian Dantists to celebrate two years ago the 600th anniversary of the poet's coming into Valdimagra. The subjects are critical, literary, historical, biographical, and geographical. Among the contributors are such authorities as Senator D'Ancona, Prof. I. Del Lungo, and Prof. P. Rajna. One section is devoted to sketches of Lunigianese students who have been experts in Dante. Many half-tone pictures really illustrate the district or reproduce documents, and there is a considerable bibliography. A companion volume, "Dante ed i Malaspina," by Giovanni Sforza, is in press. The present collection of essays gives a fair sample of the methods and range of specialized Dante studies in Italy.

Prof. Raffaello Fornaciari has gathered into a volume entitled "Fra il Nuovo e l'Antico," a score of literary papers, long and short, which he has contributed during the past half century to Italian journals. The topics range from "The Sentiment of Humanity in Greek Literature," to secondary figures like Vettori, Caro, Manni, and Monti, and to grammatical studies of the historical imperfect and the pronoun "lo." (Milan: Hoepli. 6 lire.)

"Schubart: ein deutsches Dichter- und Kulturbild," is the title of a volume by Karl Maria Klob (Ulm: Heinrich Kerler), which transports the reader into the time when Prince Karl of Würtemberg lorded over his people, not only as absolute mon-

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arch, but as infallible arbiter of taste. The work may prove useful to the student of the German poetry of the period, and especially of Schiller's first period, the youthfully rebellious storm and stress of which was largely due to the tyrannical pressure under which he chafed in the famous Karlsschule.

Otto Hauser, whose reputation as a linguist and metrical translator completely overshadows his merits as writer of original fiction, drama, and verse, is adding constantly to his already long list of works. He has published anthologies of Flemish, Belgian, Danish, Japanese, and Chinese poetry; has rendered into German Verlaine, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Swinburne, Wilde, Longfellow's "Evangeline," Van Eeden's "Ellen," and a Croatian comedy of the renaissance. Now he appears in Die Literatur, edited by Georg Brandes (Berlin: Marquardt & Co.), as the author of a brief history of Chinese poetry. The little volume is clearly and concisely planned, and popularly written. It contains nine illustrations, among them portraits of Emperor Kien Long, Confucius, and Meng Tse, and some charming pictures inspired by poems of Litaipe.

The stream of books on Goethe seems to be unending. Ludwig Geiger, professor at the University of Berlin, and recently created Geheimer Regierungsrat, has published (Leipzig: R. Voigtländer) "Goethe und die Seinen: Quellenmässige Darstellungen über Goethes Haus." This book of nearly four hundred pages affords intimate glimpses of the family life of the poet, a subject of perennial interest both to the student and the general reader. The charming personality of Goethe's mother continues to tempt the writer of literary portraits. Johannes Höffner has written "Frau Rat Elisabeth Goethe, geb. Textor" (Bielefeld: Velhagen & Klasing); and Elisabeth Mentzel, author of a history of the theatre of Frankfort, has added "Frau Rat Goethe: Ein Lebensbild" (Frankfurt-am-M.: Neuer Frankfurter Verlag). One of the most interesting new editions of Goethe's poems is edited by Ernst Hartung, under the title "Goethes Gedichte im Rahmen seines Lebens" (Munich: Wilhelm Langewiesche-Brand). The seventh volume of nearly three hundred pages contains "Ueber allen Wipfeln." The work is illustrated.

"Schiller und Lotte: Ein Briefwechsel" (Jena: Eugen Diederichs) is the title of the correspondence between Schiller and his wife, which has been edited in two volumes by a descendant of the poet, Alexander von Gleichen-Russwurm.

That standard statistical annual, Otto Hübner's Geographisch-statistische Tabellen aller Länder der Erde, has appeared for 1908, its fifty-seventh issue, edited by Prof. Franz von Juraschеck, president of the statistical Zentral-Kommission of Austria (Frankfurt-am-M.: H. Keller). The statistical data are, wherever possible, official.

Of the new six-volume "Weltgeschichte: Die Entwicklung der Menschheit in Staat und Gesellschaft, in Kultur und Geistesleben," edited with the coöperation of a score of specialists by Prof. Julius A. G. von Pflugk-Harttung, the fourth volume has been the first to appear. It is a history of the Reformation, by Prof. Theodor Brieger of Leipzig, with the special title: "Geschichte der Neuzeit: Das religiöse Zeitalter, 1500-1650." (Berlin: Ullstein & Co.). The author emphasizes the new things in Luther's ideas and thus opposes recent efforts to assign him rather to the middle ages than to modern times.

The American Economic Association will hold its twenty-first annual meeting at Atlantic City December 28-31. The American Association for Labor Legislation and the American Sociological Society will hold their sessions at the same time and place. The provisional programme of the Economic Association includes the following papers: President's address, S. N. Patten, University of Pennsylvania; "Theory of Collective Bargaining," J. B. Clark, Columbia, with discussion by A. C. Miller, University of California, G. E. Barnett, Johns Hopkins, T. S. Adams, University of Wisconsin, C. W. Doten, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, R. F. Hoxie, University of Chicago; "Accounting," W. M. Cole, Harvard; "Accounting in Its Relation to Economics," M. H. Robinson, University of Illinois; "The Present Position and Probable Development of Accountancy as a Profession," Joseph E. Sterret; "Capitalization of Public Service Corporations," Charles J. Bullock, Harvard; "Employers' Liability," M. O. Lorenz, University of Wisconsin, Miss Crystal Eastman, of the Pittsburgh Survey, C. P. Neill, United States Bureau of Labor; "Canadian Industrial Disputes Act," Adam Shortt, Civil Service Commission of Ottawa; discussion by O. D. Skelton, Queens University, and Dr. Victor S. Clark, Bureau of Labor, Washington; "Influence of Income on Standards of Life," Robert C. Chapin, Beloit; "Family in a Modern Mill Community," Miss Margaret F. Byington; "The Results of the Pittsburgh Survey," Dr. Edward T. Devine; "The Revision of the Tariff, H. C. Emery, Yale, N. I. Stone, Bureau of Statistics, Washington, Simon Lipman, University of Illinois; "A Central Bank," F. M. Warburg, New York, O. M. W. Sprague, Harvard, Horace White, New York, Joseph French Johnson, University of New York.

The exhibition of documents, at the Public Record Office, London, in connection with the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of Lord Chatham's birth, included two or three documents of special interest to Americans. One was a list of English prisoners released from Canada, in November, 1759; wherein will be found several American colonists who served in Major Rogers's corps of Rangers. The following is a copy of a letter in Latin, sent to Chatham by his famous son, William Pitt, then a schoolboy at Brighton. The "Gulielmus Johnson, Eques Auratus," is, of course, Sir William Johnson, the victor over Baron Dieskau, and the superintendent over the Six Nations:

Mi Charissime Pater,—

Gaudeo audire te rursum bene valere. Vidimus Primates Mohecaunnuch et Wappinger Tribuum Indiorum a Septentrionale America qui veniunt in Angliam supplicare regem ob quosdam agros. Gulielmus Johnson Eques Auratus desiderabat auxilium eorum in bello et illi omnes abierunt ut pugnarent contra Gallos sed cum domum rediebant sentiebant Batavos arripuisse omnes suos agros. Vulgus apud Portland illos parum commode tractabat.

The documents were selected and arranged by Hubert Hale, director of the Royal Historical Society, and one of the senior members of the Record Office staff, to whose invaluable help and sympathy so many American students can testify.

A committee of prominent Harvard graduates, headed by Alexander Agassiz, has sent out the following appeal:

Charles William Eliot, after forty years of faithful and brilliant service, has resigned the presidency of Harvard University. We think this event should be recognized by some suitable action on the part of the alumni. With the coöperation of the Alumni Association we invite the graduates of Harvard University, and others who have been connected with it, to subscribe to a fund to be known as the Charles William Eliot Fund, the income of which shall be paid to President and Mrs. Eliot during their lives, and afterwards be used in such a manner as he may designate. It is especially desired that this fund should be, so far as possible, the gift of all, and the smallest contributions will be as gratefully received as the largest. Subscriptions, to which no publicity will be given, may be sent to F. L. Higginson, No. 50 State Street, Boston, Mass.

John Henry Wright, professor of Greek and, since 1895, dean of the Graduate School in Harvard University, died November 25 at his home in Cambridge. Professor Wright was born in 1852 at Urumiyah, Persia, where his father was then stationed as missionary. He was educated at Dartmouth and Leipzig, and in 1873 received the appointment of professor of ancient languages in the Ohio State University. From there he went to Dartmouth, thence to Johns Hopkins, and in 1887 to Harvard. He did a large amount of editing for classical and archæological journals, and published articles in them on various topics. One of his greatest editorial works was the supervision of "A History of All Nations," twenty-four volumes, 1902. He was eminently successful both as a teacher and an administrator.

John Bell Henneman, professor of English and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., died at Richmond, Va., November 26. He was born at Spartanburg, S. C., in 1864, and after graduation from the University of Virginia he taught in Wofford College. Then he studied abroad for three years and received the degree of Ph.D. from the University of Berlin. On his return to America he was professor first at Hampton-Sidney College, and then at the University of Tennessee. In 1900 he was called to Sewanee, and in the same year he began to edit the Sewanee *Review*. He was general editor of the Johnson Series of English Classics; with Prof. W. P. Trent he edited a complete edition of Thackeray in thirty volumes (1904), and "Best American Tales" (1907). In recent years he had devoted much time and energy to the movement for raising the scholastic standards of Southern colleges and universities, particularly by increasing the requirements for admission. His services to the cause of education were thus very important.

From Edinburgh comes the report of the death of George Seton in his eighty-seventh year. He had written much on Scottish heraldry and genealogy, including: "The Law and Practice of Heraldry in Scotland," "Cakes, Leeks, Puddings, and Potatoes," "Gossip about Letters and Letter-Writers," "St. Kilda, Past and Present," "Memoir of Chancellor Seton," "The House of Moncrieff," "A Budget of Anecdotes," and "The Family of Seton during Eight Centuries."

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Eduard Woelfflin, professor of classical philology at the University of Munich, has died at Basle, his birthplace, at the age of seventy-seven. His best-known works are "Sentenzen des Publilius Syrus," "Asinius Polio de Bello Africo," and "Benedicti Regula Monachorum."

## NOTES ON BOOKS FOR CHILDREN—II.

It is only within recent years that fairy tales have become folk-lore, and it is, perhaps, unfortunate that so many volumes for children are being compiled in accordance with this scientific view. This year, however, a score of volumes cater to the imaginative side of young readers. "The Elm-Tree Fairy Book" (Little, Brown & Co.) is the third in a collection being edited by Clifton Johnson, with the purpose of *softening* the action. We cannot approve doubtful material, but softening generally means weakening the interest of the story as a story. "Fairy Tales from Folklore" (Moffat, Yard & Co.) is by Herschel Williams, who has based his tales on material never before published. A third fairy book, under the editorship of Kate Douglas Wiggin and Nora Archibald Smith, bears the tempting title of "Tales of Laughter" (McClure). Scandinavia is well represented, with a scattering of old favorites, even to a selection from Lewis Carroll's "Sylvie and Bruno." "Gaelic Fairy Tales" (David Nutt) is a small book, prepared by Winifred M. Parker. Its title page reads: "Na Daoine Sidhe is Uirsgeulan eile"; the pages offer alternately Gaelic and an English translation, the elusive quality which marks the narrative, is not so foreign to the dreamy tendency of all children. William Elliot Griffis, in "The Fire-Fly Lovers" (Crowell), tells some fairy tales of old Japan. Clara Kern Bayliss, assisted by the clever brush of E. Warde Blaisdell, imitates Brer Rabbit in her "Old Man Coyote" (Crowell), a product of Western Indian tradition; these stories have variants among many tribes. "Stories of Persian Heroes" (Crowell), issued in a decorative volume, with colored borders, places Rustum, as a hero, beside Hercules and Alexander. E. M. Wilmot-Buxton, the author, will have done children a service if he succeeds in preparing the way for Matthew Arnold's "Sohrab and Rustum." Many old friends are to be found in "The Children's Treasure Trove of Pearls" (Little, Brown), edited by Mary Wilder Tileston. Maria Edgeworth, Juliana Horatia Ewing, and Lewis Carroll figure among the authors. "Johnny-Cake," culled from the *American Folk-Lore Journal*, is worth saving; its counterparts are many. "The Tortoise and the Geese" (Houghton Mifflin) is a collection of fables credited to Bidpai, and now freshly retold by Maude Barrows Dutton. La Fontaine and Æsop drew from this Indian philosopher, and we should imagine, to judge by the present book, surpassed him in liveliness. Edward Brooks has retold the "Wonder Stories from the Mabinogion" (Penn Publishing Co.), with an explanatory preface. It will be remembered that a book of like character was written by Sidney Lanier. "Stories of Wagner Operas Told for Children" (Bobbs-Merrill), by Elizabeth M. Wheelock, contains very little spontaneous narrative, although the events are faithfully followed. The cover design leads one to expect more. Lucy Fitch Perkins has decorated Edith Ogden Harrison's "The Flaming Sword" (McClurg), in which the author extracts certain lore from the Bible, treating the material purely as narrative. The moral attachment is a little too evident.

A fairy story which has enjoyed long popularity, George Macdonald's "The Princess and Curdie," is issued by J. B. Lippincott, with twelve illustrations in color by Maria L. Kirk. The volume is a companion to Macdonald's "The Princess and the Goblin," which the same publishers put on the market at this time last year. The type is large, the pictures are charming. Charles Kingsley's "Water-Babies," with color plates, and other pictures by Arthur Dixon, is published by E. P. Dutton & Co. Another welcome reprint is Mrs. Molesworth's "Fairies—of Sorts" (Macmillan), rather attractively illustrated by Gertrude Demain Hammond, and containing the tale of "The Groaning Clock." A cheap edition of Paul de Musset's "Mr. Wind and Madam Rain" has been published by the Harpers. "The Top o' the World," which was originally conceived by Mark E. Swan as the libretto for an extravaganza, was a most suitable entertainment for youngsters. Now that it has been turned into a book (Dutton), with illustrations by Hy. Mayer, it has lost some of its picturesqueness, though the story is just the same. L. Frank Baum his invented some "American Fairy Tales" (Bobbs-Merrill), which are more popular than they are striking, while, in "Dorothy and the Wizard in Oz" (Reilly & Britton), the same author exhibits his ingenuity in building upon the basis of a former success. The color plates by John R. Neill are out of the ordinary. The idea underlying H. Grace Parsons's "The Jimpy Stories" (Dutton) is excellent. Bedtime tales are needed, and were there not a certain irritating condescension in the style, Mother Goose as here used might prove excellent. No one understands better than Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett the difficult art of writing for children; she seems suddenly to have become endowed with a new quality marked by such an excellent narrative as "Racketty-Packetty House." This year "The Spring Cleaning" (Century), while it does not exceed "The Cosy Lion" in quaintness and excitement, is equally full of originality and spontaneousness. Indeed, there is no story we more heartily recommend than this in which the Green Workers with their hot-water bags and the Green Tuggers outwit the Frost Imps in their efforts to grow primroses for the benefit of Jane Ann Biggs. Mrs. Burnett's "The Good Wolf" (Moffat, Yard) is marked by the same excellent qualities; the instinctive humor and the unerring repetitions of effective phrasing are wholly commendable. Instead of acting as editor and compiler, E. V. Lucas this year figures as the author of "Anne's Terrible Good Nature, and Other Stories" (Macmillan); most of these tales are reprints, and probably there are some readers who already know "A Day in the Life of a Shilling."

Evidently Miss Mary Wright Plummer has received sufficient encouragement to persuade the loquacious Roy and Ray, who accompanied her to Mexico last year, to go this year through Canada (Holt). However excellent the material, we cannot overcome our dislike of the cross-question. Miss Plummer, who has done her work carefully, is a trained observer. Another book "Canada," by Beckles Willson, in the Romance of Empire series (Stokes), is full of adventure and atmosphere, and depends on no artificial methods for conveying fact. Two other volumes in this series are: "The Netherlands," by Mary MacGregor; and "Australia," by W. H. Lang. The three books are effectively illustrated, and are bound in striking covers.

For the moment Andrew Lang has abandoned fairies in various colored volumes; and his Christmas offering for children this year is "The Book of Princes and Princesses" (Longmans, Green, & Co.). The text is from the hand of Mrs. Lang, who has written some fifteen "true stories" out of "the old books of history." Among the heroes and heroines are Napoleon, the Princess Jeanne, and Princess Elizabeth. In the preface Mr. Lang explains that some true stories may be almost as interesting as fairy tales. The illustrations by H. J. Ford, eight of them in color, are in Mr. Ford's usual admirable manner. A condensation of Froissart's "Chronicles" for "younger readers of our history" (E. P. Dutton & Co.) has been handsomely illustrated in color by Herbert Cole. James Morgan's "Abraham Lincoln: The Boy and the Man" (Macmillan) is a biography, marked by the directness and unqualified enthusiasm of his "Theodore Roosevelt." "The Story-Life of Lincoln" (Winston), by Wayne Whipple, is a rather fragmentary compilation, designed to meet popular demand. "The Boyhood of Lincoln" (McClure) is told by Eleanor Atkinson; and an incident in his life is recorded by Margarita S. Gerry in "The Toy Shop" (Harper), but should one wish an excellent piece of fiction about Lincoln let him buy Mary S. Andrews's inspiring story of "The Perfect Tribute" (Scribner). Frederick A. Ober continues his series, Heroes of American History, in the lives of "John and Sebastian Cabot" and "Juan Ponce de Leon" (Harper); the author is painstaking and sometimes picturesque in his descriptions. Mary E. Phillips's "Laureled Leaders for Little Folks" (Lothrop, Lee) treats of Thomas Wentworth Higginson and Longfellow. C. H. Forbes-Lindsay's "Daniel Boone: Backwoodsman" (Lippincott) would be commendable as a biography, if it were not partly fiction; where there is a paucity of authentic data, the author feels compelled to invent. But Mr. Forbes-Lindsay has a picturesque style. For Dutton, Everett McNeil has combined narrative and fact for "In Texas with Davy Crockett." "Story-Lives of Great Composers" (Stokes), as viewed by Francis Jameson Rowbotham, is a thick volume dealing with seven musicians; at the end of each chapter is a list of important compositions. The text is illustrated with old-fashioned cuts.

In the field of fiction Marion Ames Taggart continues to be healthy and sentimental in "Six Girls Growing Older" (Wilde), a continuation; Annie Fellows Johnston has been forced to account for every breathing moment of her heroine, and "Mary Ware: The Little Colonel's Chum" (Page) is one of the moments. This is the ninth volume. The irritating fact about Mrs. Johnston is that she seems to have a certain power which could rise

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above "The Little Colonel" as a trade-mark. "The New Boy" (Houghton) is one of Arthur Stanwood Pier's St. Timothy's Tales, with the usual athletics, and stereotyped characters. Ralph Henry Barbour's "Harry's Island" (Century), save that it is much too long, shows surprising ingenuity in invention; but it is like what he has done before. A quasi-love story for girls, by Enid Leigh Hunt (Lippincott), "The Advent of Arthur" is typically English; it forms one of five rather thick books published by Lippincott. There is "Life on the Ocean, or Twenty Years at Sea," being the personal adventures of the author, George Little, introduced by W. Clark Russell; and Cutcliffe J. Hyne also contributes to the series. The Harper's Young People Series contains some good material, especially a story, "For Sale—A Warrior," in "Adventures with Indians," by Philip Verrill Mighels, and an interesting sketch, "The Buccaneers," in "Adventures of Pirates and Sea Rovers," by Howard Pyle. A third collection is called "Adventures at Sea." Two quaint little stories are Marguerite Bouvet's "Clotilde" (McClurg) and Mrs. M. E. M. Davis's "The Moons of Balbanca" (Houghton). The former is for older girls, and deals with New Orleans, when customs of France and Spain lent color to the social life; the estrangement between mother and daughter is deftly treated. The latter story contains more of the typical New Orleans atmosphere. Among the many tales of colonization, conquest, and pioneer adventure, we pick up Everett McNeil's "The Boy Forty-niners" (McClure) as a sample of five-cent literature toned down. Any newsboy would enjoy this narrative, however clumsy the writing. The book is not to be recommended for children who can get better, but some librarians may welcome this story as a stepping-stone to higher things. Having met success with a former book of like character, S. R. Crockett issues a second series of "Red Cap Tales" (Macmillan) based on four of Scott's novels. The connecting links are excellent, while the stories are told with spirit; the illustrations are rich in color. We believe that a complete edition of Scott's novels, thoroughly illustrated, might sell almost as well as Henty.

As a fitting close we would record the Rev. Isaac Watts's "Divine and Moral Songs for Children" (Page), reissued in charming form; there is a lightness, a brightness of cover and illustration that offset the weighty injunctions of the verses. Mrs. Arthur Gaskins is the artist.

## UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION.

*University Administration.* By Charles W. Eliot. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. $1.50 net.

This volume, which consists of six lectures delivered at Northwestern University, comes from the press at a fortunate time. The recent resignation of President Eliot has provoked a wide discussion of the man and his work. Various reasons have been assigned for his success. This is the authoritative statement. In the limits of an ordinary review an adequate outline of the book is impossible; for it is packed with matter. Here, then, we shall attempt nothing more than to discuss a few salient points.

President Eliot's theories of education are presented chiefly in the two chapters, "The Elective System" and "Methods of Instruction." At the present moment the elective system is being freshly attacked—a fact which lends peculiar interest to this summary of some forty years of experience with it. President Eliot is as uncompromising as ever in support of the principle. He believes that it is far more beneficial than the old required cirruculum; and that it is a peculiar advantage to the lowest quarter of a college class, because it "not only gets much more work out of that quarter, but also offers them their only chance of experiencing an intellectual awakening while in college." He tells us that three experts examined independently all the choices made by members of the classes of 1884 and 1885 at Harvard. The three men agreed upon only six cases in which the selections "lacked coherency and consecutiveness." "Two out of the three experts—but not the same two in every instance—agreed on twenty-one cases within the two classes." This, it must be admitted, is a very small amount of abuse to serve as a basis for wholesale condemnation of the system. President Eliot adds:

> This verdict would stand unchanged today, except that the recent gross exaggeration of athletic sports has added slightly to the number of incoherent or wrong-motived selections.

For the capable and ambitious student, the advantages of the elective system are, in our opinion, indisputable. We need not labor the point. The elective system is infinitely flexible and may be easily adapted to individual needs. Then, too, without it anything like advanced study in the branches for which a student has special aptitude would be impossible. And, on the moral side, as President Eliot has so often urged, the system throws the youth upon his own responsibility and serves to develop in him the feeling that his failure or success depends upon himself. This feature alone would compensate for many defects. The teacher, too, profits greatly; for the elective system affords him, as well as the undergraduate, a chance for advanced work; it helps to keep him from becoming a machine. To quote once more:

> The attention of faculties and the public has been too often concentrated on the effects of the elective system on young students; whereas its effect on teachers and on the development of real scholarship throughout the country, ought to receive more attention; for it is there that its effects have been most beneficent.

What, then, are the objections? The broad principle that underlies it we believe to be impregnable. There is not a college faculty in the United States that would attempt to prescribe a hard and fast curriculum for four years. The thing cannot be done. But the practical application of the principle is attended by many difficulties; and these, in our opinion, President Eliot has insufficiently emphasized. He assures us that the system "works well, wherever the administrative methods which should accompany such an elective system have been well devised and well executed." Elsewhere he remarks that "the main principle being settled once and for all, the administrative methods will be capable of indefinite improvement." Yet in neither of the two chapters we are now considering does he lay his finger firmly on certain of the troubles that have beset many institutions that are smaller and less fully equipped than Harvard. That college has been peculiarly fortunate in an unbroken administration through four decades, under a president who has had a definite policy which he has pursued with extraordinary tenacity. The result is that the Harvard curriculum has been developed with fair consistency and symmetry. Other colleges have had three or four presidents, some with one policy, some with another, and some with none. Under these unhappy conditions the most aggressive and pertinacious members of the faculty—often those with the lowest ideals of scholarship—have expanded their departments absurdly at the expense of the college as a whole. They have filled many pages of the catalogue with a dazzling array of courses that profess to be "advanced," but that are really nothing but a paper sham. These courses, valueless as they are for intellectual discipline, have depleted the really solid courses by attracting scores, perhaps hundreds, of students—some of the lads innocently imagining that the east wind is food for the mind, some deliberately seeking the easiest way to a degree. But on the strength of this fraud upon the college itself as well as the general public, ignorant and unprincipled teachers, pointing to their big classes, have secured the moral and financial support of the authorities, and have seriously cheapened the college degree. Were this the proper occasion, we could fortify our argument by citation of names and places, East and West—and so could every college professor who reads this article. Again, in the institutions where the aim has been to make an impressive exhibition of resources—a "window-dressing," to use the appropriate commercial phrase—the elective system has lent itself to the introduction of various new courses for which no adequate methods of instruction have been devised, and for some of which, we make bold to say, none ever can be devised. These evils

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may not be inherent in the elective system, but at least they have been its inevitable accompaniment. Had they been more clearly recognized and guarded against, the elective system would stand in higher favor to-day.

President Eliot himself admits that an absolutely free and unrestricted choice of studies may have its drawbacks, and he is at pains to show that there are rather sharp limitations. The student cannot, for example, take advanced courses in any subject till he has mastered the elementary ones. But that restriction presupposes, as President Eliot puts it, "a well-ordered series of consecutive courses in each large subject of instruction"—a height to which many institutions have not yet attained. Furthermore, "in a well-managed college competent advice is always offered to the newcomer in planning his own schedule of studies." But the "freshman advisers" at Harvard, an innovation of the last twenty or twenty-five years, are a frank recognition of the fact that freshmen do not always choose wisely. Again:

> He [the student] cannot take two courses which occur in the time-tables at the same hour; and the time-tables may be systematically used to prevent unwise combinations of courses.

But if these restrictions are legitimate and useful, it cannot be argued *a priori* that others may not be; and certainly we have not yet experimented long enough and under sufficiently various conditions to reach a final conclusion. To the imposition of greater restrictions than these President Eliot, however, cannot see his way clear—at least at Harvard. The group system seems to him too rigid. Unless the boundaries of the groups are often transgressed, the boy whose aptitudes do not appear in his freshman year may be condemned to spend "several years in an ill-fitting group of studies." This is worse than choosing amiss "one or two studies which he can easily replace." Granting for the moment that at Harvard the present restrictions are severe enough, and that the results are as completely satisfactory as President Eliot believes them to be, we yet remain skeptical as to the case of institutions which cannot boast a thoroughly systematic scheme of courses and well-devised and well-executed methods of administration. There are colleges which have not yet worked out the adjustment of liberty and limitation. We have welcomed heartily the elective system—of which President Eliot has been the most powerful advocate—as an act of emancipation in the world of scholarship. But there, as sometimes in the larger world, emancipation has not been an unmixed good. For the next generation we must bend our energies to the practical application of the noble principle of freedom, and, if we may use the figure, to the complicated problems of educational reconstruction.

But the early introduction and development of the elective system would not have given Harvard such immense prestige and popularity had not the administration of the university been extraordinarily efficient. As an undergraduate President Eliot rowed in the crew and mastered the theory of applying every ounce of strength of every man to the production of a desired result. To that theory he has been unrelentingly faithful for forty years. Alumni, overseers, members of the corporation, teachers and other officers, undergraduates, and such outsiders as he could interest, have been enlisted in the one great enterprise of making the Harvard boat go, while he himself has, so to speak, pulled a magnificent stroke. It has been a wonderful exhibition of skilfully directed energy; and this book contains many *obiter dicta* showing how it is possible to appeal to one man's self-interest, to another's loyalty to the college, and to still another's devotion to science—all *ad majorem gloriam* Harvard. The vigor of the faculties, the administrative staff, and the governing boards President Eliot would maintain by a constant stream of young blood. He has been described as "the best judge of academic cattle in America"; he has picked out the finest stock while it was still young, and secured it at a bargain. This is a striking, even if unpleasant, way of stating an important truth. He has watched for promising graduates of Harvard; he has made it his business "to discover and make proposals to men still young who have distinguished themselves in the service of other institutions." He has tried to get the fullest possible return for his outlay:

> The larger institution does not need to offer such men full professorships. They can ordinarily be obtained for assistant professorships or even for instructorships without limit of time.

President Eliot has never hesitated to remind an aspirant for a place at Harvard that "to serve as an assistant to a successful professor in a university course is the best thing that a young scholar can do towards getting a good position for himself." President Eliot has also found that "it is often impossible for trustees to procure in the market the human article they need or think they need." But he has been too shrewd a Yankee to take the crudely commercial view which such phrases might suggest. He hastens to explain:

> Money is not the appropriate reward for the quick sympathy, genuine good will, patience, and comprehensive learning which go to the making of a first-rate university teacher.

Granted enough to live on and a pension system to provide "for the humane retirement of incumbents whose efficiency is impaired," the things which attract a professor are "long vacations, the gratification of his intellectual tastes, good fellowship in study, teaching, and research, plenty of books, . . . better schools for the children, a wholesomer life for the family, more social and educational advantages, and the general prestige of the inviting institution." In fine, one of the things which has imparted to Harvard its tremendous momentum has been the laborious, steady, and intelligent application of those broad principles of economy and efficiency in operation which make any industry profitable—but with due regard to the distinction between an industrial venture and an intellectual.

And, finally, the book is interesting as another revelation of one of the most impressive personalities in America. The orderly arrangement of the matter, the firmness and perfect lucidity of the style, the keen observation of men and affairs, the foresight, the worldly wisdom, in the high sense of that term, the forthright directness—these characteristics compel attention whether or not one is interested in problems of university management. Indeed, we may look upon this volume as an epitome, or record, of a life devoted to the service of Harvard, and, through Harvard, of the nation and the world—a devotion and a service for which the fitting reward is the gratitude and regard of thousands of men and women and the approval of conscience.

## CURRENT FICTION.

*The Whole Family:* A Novel by Twelve Authors. New York: Harper & Bros.

This must have been good fun for everybody involved, though how it all came about is a question for the curious. We know, in a general way, who got together this company of strange bookfellows. Their joint performance was, we believe, the subject of a guessing-contest. But on what principle were they chosen? It is not easy to see why, if so-and-so is included, he or she is not. Did all the participants come willingly into the game, or were certain of them under some strange compulsion? One fancies Mr. James hypnotically persuaded to take his place in the circle between facetious Mr. Bangs and soulful Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, and caused to produce an excellent parody of himself, as if in spite of himself. It would be interesting to know, moreover, whether Mr. Howells simply set the ball rolling off-hand, or whether there was some sort of understanding as to what the general situation should be. And what determined the number of performers at twelve? Mark Twain included, it might have been called "A Baker's Dozen," and would still have been a Harper's. One supposes, however, that the possibility of exciting

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this kind of curiosity might be one of the arguments for such an undertaking.

The result is sufficiently amusing, as occasional in its nature as a parlor charade. Mr. Howells leads off with a chapter so good that one fancies a superior "Kentons" might have developed if it had been for him to write the rest. The family is a representative "best family" of a Middle Western town. The father is a successful manufacturer, a self-made man, but (in Mr. Howells's hands) a person of intelligence and humor. After his kind, he is domestically inert and helpless in the hands of his women-folk, a puzzled though benignant spectator of their ways, individual and social. The mother is a person of dignity, locally supreme, neither intellectual nor a fool, unless in her easy-going subjection to her children. The rest of the group are: a resident grandmother, a transient old-maid aunt, married son and daughter with their respective spouses, a girl just out of college (co-educational), a school-girl, an urchin, and a friend of the family. The precipitating event is the engagement of the "co-ed" and a young professor of her college. And so out passes Mr. Howells in the middle of a sentence, with a mild glance of wonder at the gay figure which brushes by him and gains the middle of the stage. This is Miss Wilkins, who has conceived the old-maid aunt as a belated siren, and so plays her. And so in turn enter the rest, each with his monologue, ready and willing to expound or confound that slow course of events which ends with the linking of the girl with a mate whimsically provided at the eleventh chapter by Miss Brown, in the face of all suitors theretofore proposed. It is pure vaudeville, but many of the "turns" are characteristic and amusing; none more so than that of Mr. James, who holds the stage (if not the house) twice as long as most of the others, and, as he would say, gets beautifully nowhere.

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*Barry Gordon.* By William Farquhar Payson. New York: The McClure Co.

When did the Gentleman of Old Virginia, with his Cavalier ancestors, his deep drinking and hard riding, his pride and his "chivalry," first come upon the stage of fiction? He must have been a welcome and picturesque figure, once, but now he lags superfluous, and it takes all the skill and charm of a Thomas Nelson Page or a Hopkinson Smith to put any life into his poor old bones. So amateurish a writer as Mr. Payson can awaken no belief in the reality either of the gallant Col. Gordon of Gordon's Raiders, who dies drinking to the Devil, or of his son, the hero of the book, who carries his Virginian virtues and vices through a stormy career of school and college scrapes and seven years' adventures in all parts of the world—including such little every-day incidents as going up, quite casually, in a Paris balloon and finding himself swimming for life in Lake Tchad—winding up with the rescue of his brother from the clutches of a second-hand Raisuli. In Morocco Mr. Payson seems rather more at home than at Harvard, on which he bestows a "campus" and a president who expels Barry, out of hand, for refusing to give the names of his companions in a freshman-sophomore rush.

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*The Altar Stairs.* By G. B. Lancaster. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

The opening chapters of this book prepare us merely for a tale of breathless adventure, and as Rod Maclean sets out to corner the copra and timber trade of the Solomons, we hear with him only the insistent call of the sea. It is not long, however, before we find ourselves enlisted with him in more pregnant adventure in other and deeper waters. A human soul's discovery of itself and the laws of its being is always a theme of absorbing interest—interest in this case of a painful intensity, since Rod is no willing pilgrim, and is dragged passionately struggling from his City of Destruction. The grip of the story can in no way be conveyed by an outline of the plot, each incident being so firmly built into the general structure that the whole must be envisaged in detail to be appreciated. Among the dramatis personæ there are but few lay-figures; the majority are of startling vitality. Tony Heritage is decidedly the conventional villain, even to the setting of his eyes too close together, and one can but wish for a touch of the human relief Stevenson understood so well, in the too diabolic figure of Tuli. But Strickland, the missionary, "Little Mademoiselle," Leroit the dour engineer, and Hugo, have a genuine and compelling charm. It would seem as if there might be less wading in gore without sacrificing the sweep and vigor of the story; yet when one paints with so sure and broad a touch, it is perhaps unwise to quarrel with the superabundant red of his palette.

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*A Woman at Bay.* (From the Italian "Una Donna.") By Sibilla Aleramo. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

To the revolutionary women of our own race, chafing at political and economical inequality, this elemental cry from the Old World comes strangely. It is hard for an American woman, however she may pity the protagonist of the book, to sympathize with this morbid, "oversexed"—if we may coin such a word—passionately complaining creature; but the story of brutal physical tyranny and abuse, however hysterically told, is not negligible when we consider that it represents an actual condition of the present day, permitted—one might almost say enforced—by law. The novel-with-a-purpose rarely gives the delight that lies in true art; in this instance there has been no attempt to that end. It is the self-told life of a woman entrapped when but a child into a marriage whose increasing misery and degradation drive her to attempt suicide. After the birth of her son, she endures rather than be separated from him; but as his dawning consciousness begins to apprehend the horrible and irremediable discord of his surroundings, the mother is compelled to face a choice of sufferings:

> If I went, my boy would be orphaned; if I stayed it would be to set a degrading example before him throughout his entire life. He, too, would grow up in the midst of strife and madness.

She chooses to leave her son the memory of a mother willing to sacrifice even her own longing for him to the insistent call of what her spirit recognizes as right. The story leaves her supporting herself by teaching, her starved motherhood turning to the starved childhood of the sickly poor, hoping afresh for others, if not for herself.

It is practically impossible to judge from a translation the style of the original; in this case, however, that factor hardly enters, as the book is evidently intended rather for propaganda than for literature. Indeed, one can but feel that it is the writer herself who speaks in the closing pages: "I am not asking for fame but only to be heard."

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*Mirabeau and the French Revolution.* By Fred Morrow Fling. In 3 vols. Vol. I.: The Youth of Mirabeau. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $3.50 net.

Professor Fling's object is clearly stated in his preface:

> I have conceived my task in a large way and have striven to write the life of Mirabeau with an historical setting that will make it intelligible. I have endeavored to present Mirabeau as a true heir of the Riqueti, as a product of eighteenth-century France, but possessing a marked individuality and reacting upon his environment as a leader in the greatest revolution of modern times. In narrating his life I have tried to avoid the rôle of an advocate and to attain to a strictly scientific point of view. I have sought to describe his life as it actually was—in so far as the evidence permits it—but to describe it sympathetically.

It may be said at once that this aim has been signally realized in as far as that is possible in the first volume, which is characterized by a large and coherent plan, a mastery of voluminous material, a power of presenting characters in just relief against the background of the age, by moderation of judgment and detachment of view.

It is a singular fact that this is the first comprehensive and scholarly life of Mirabeau in English. Macaulay,

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seventy-five years ago, wrote an essay on Mirabeau, with Mirabeau largely left out, in which he succeeded in characterizing him as a Wilkes-Chatham—a phrase as satisfactory as any for those who are content with labels. Carlyle, in his Olympian way, made Mirabeau the hero of his homily, and with a tremendous beating of the drums of rhetoric proclaimed him "world-compeller" and "Sovereign Man," leaving an impressionistic portrait, not an informing narrative. In recent years Von Holst has given us a suggestive study of his public career, and Willert an excellent but brief biography. Nor did Mirabeau fare much better at the hands of Continental scholars. For nearly a century after his death there was no adequate biography of the great tribune. This want was met twenty years ago by the almost simultaneous appearance of two works of great value: in French, that of Charles de Loménie in the last three volumes of "Les Mirabeau," and in German that of Prof. Alfred Stern. These have remained since 1889 the only important biographies of Mirabeau. Professor Fling's will, when completed, make the third; and if the excellence of the first volume is maintained, will fill an important gap.

The volume before us concerns mainly the youth of Mirabeau; that is, the first twenty-five years of his life, from 1749 to 1774, when he became legally of age only to be declared legally a minor by reason of his "imprévoyance vraiment enfantine." It is the fullest treatment of the subject that we possess from any expert, being more than twice as extensive as Loménie's and many times as extensive as Stern's. Nor does this treatment appear to be too ample. There is little that may be deemed superfluous, little that does not contribute to the enrichment of the narrative. Professor Fling's chief contribution to our knowledge lies in his elaborate and discriminating account of the relations of Mirabeau and his father. Hitherto those relations have been treated too much *en bloc*, as if they early became fixed and unchangeable. The result has been over-emphasis, lack of shading, a sense of unreality and unnaturalness. Professor Fling gives a truer and more convincing description of those relations, so portentous for both father and son, by showing, chronologically and at length, the vicissitudes through which they passed. His principal source of information is found in the correspondence that passed between Mirabeau's father and uncle, between the *marquis* and the *bailli*, a correspondence extensive, intimate, remarkably frank, remarkably vivid. This priceless material in twelve folio volumes of manuscript, preserved in Aix in Provence, has hitherto been used by Lucas de Montigny, the adopted son of Mirabeau, for his "Mémoires de Mirabeau," a work primarily of filial piety rather than of scholarship; and by Louis and Charles de Loménie in their five volumes on "Les Mirabeau." Professor Fling has made liberal extracts, has pieced them together skilfully, held them under rigid criticism, and has thus succeeded in presenting striking portraits of three salient Mirabeaus, father, son, and uncle. He has explained the growth of a strangely complex character. The exclamation of Jaurès is relevant even at this stage: "Quelle immense force organique était dans cet homme!" And the *bailli* wrote when the young man was twenty-one:

> If he is not worse than Nero, he will be better than Marcus Aurelius, for I have never encountered so much intelligence. It made my poor head spin. . . . The devil himself has not so much.

But the book contains far more than this. From its pages we get significant pictures of pre-revolutionary France. We see the Marquis de Mirabeau, *L'Ami des Hommes*, as riotous youth, as philosopher and reformer, and particularly as founder of a family, a "dynasty," as he called it—a plan zealously pursued for years, only to end in a tragic *débâcle*. Yet the author never loses sight of his main object, the evolution of a personality; but as he proceeds he throws many vivid side-lights upon the old régime.

Of the thoroughness of Professor Fling's investigations the work gives abundant proof. He has mastered his materials, both published and unpublished. At every step he is careful to cite authorities, and at the end he gives a critical and classified bibliography which is a model of its kind. He writes, too, in engaging temper. There is the most candid, even enthusiastic recognition of the contributions of other students of the subject. Professor Fling questions, accepts, and rejects the opinions of his co-laborers with entire independence of judgment and with entire friendliness. Whether he has, however, shown a good sense of proportion in assigning so much space to the first twenty-five years of Mirabeau's life, can be answered only on completion of his work. The style is marred by an occasional awkwardness of phrase and a translation at times too literal. As a whole, however, the English is clear and straightforward. The note at the bottom of page 153 contains some errors of dates.

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*Supplementary Papers of the American School of Classical Studies in Rome.* Vol. II. New York: The Macmillan Co.

The American School in Rome has issued a second volume of its Supplementary Papers, for which there was no room in its usual medium for publication, the *Journal of Archæology*. A grant of the Carnegie Institution ($3,000), made it possible to illustrate the issue freely and well. Over half the space is occupied by A. W. Van Buren's transcription of the famous palimpsest of Cicero's "De Re Publica." When the Vatican Library was preparing its facsimile, it gave the school the privilege of issuing this transcription. The two publications supplement each other so thoroughly that neither is complete of itself. Mr. Van Buren in an introduction explains the peculiarities of the manuscript in the way of ligatures, abbreviations, syllabic divisions, and orthography. Obviously, it is a labor that will interest a small circle of specialists, and for them it will be of permanent value.

George H. Allen's article, "The Advancement of Officers in the Roman Army" also appeals to specialists, but in a wider sense, and it will be consulted by historians, as well as by classicists. It analyzes and tabulates the system of promotion followed by the Romans during the first three centuries of the Empire. Special branches of the service have been tabulated before, but this is the most thorough study of the army in all its branches. The elaborate system of offices in civil life, the *cursus honorum*, through which all Romans prominent in public life were obliged to pass, can now be paralleled by a corresponding *cursus honorum* of the army. One of the questions still left in obscurity is that of the variations which must have occurred in the system during the four centuries of the empire, through the reforms of such great military organizers as Trajan, Hadrian, and Septimius Severus; and also from other causes, such as the gradual withdrawal of both the native Italians and of the upper classes from military service, and the increased enrolment of barbarians. It would seem as if the study of the higher commands, up to the tribunes and prefects, might have been somewhat more complete. But, in general, the study is fundamental. It was based entirely on epigraphical evidence, as literary sources were practically useless.

Prof. J. C. Egbert's "Inscriptions of Rome and Central Italy" has a broader title than the contents really warrant, for the article treats of a few small groups studied by him during his year at the school in Rome—inscriptions of the Villa Tavazzi, near Rome, some of which are owned by the school itself, of Gabii, and of Capua and its vicinity. For the first time, the name of the famous early Roman goddess, Mater Matuta, is shown to appear in an inscription found in Rome itself. The Capuan group is the most interesting, especially, perhaps, the tombstone of the contractor of the Roman theatre at Capua, with a por-

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trait of the builder, his hoisting machinery and workmen.

The fourth and last article in the volume, by C. D. Curtis, "Roman Monumental Arches," is attractive in theme and addressed to a wide audience, whom it takes over a considerable part of the Roman world in a description of monuments, both artistic and picturesque. After a discussion of the origin and different architectural forms of the so-called triumphal arches, Mr. Curtis gives a brief account of each example that either remains or had been accurately noted before destruction, seventy-nine in all. Mr. Curtis's explanation of the purpose of the arches is that they were merely free-standing bases for statues and otherwise had no use or purpose whatsoever. He theoretically excludes, therefore, all city gates, all entrances to temples and other enclosures, all cases where the arches are connected with other architectural units. In laying down these norms, he criticises previous writers who have included such monuments in their lists of arches. It is, therefore, surprising to find here the arch at Palmyra, which is part of a colonnaded avenue; those at Rimini, Trieste, and Adalia, which are city gates, connected with walls; those of Sbeitla and Medeina, which are entrances to enclosures; and those of Corinth and Khamissa, which are forum gateways. In Rome itself, the arch of Claudius was part of the arcades of an aqueduct, and the arch of Gallienus was a gate in the Servian wall. The distinction was, in reality, an illogical one and deserved to break down. Mr. Curtis also disregards his proposed exclusion of arches which were not accurately described before destruction or of which only little remains; for there is practically nothing exact known of the arch of Tiberius, the *arcus novus* of Diocletian, and the arch of Claudius in Rome, all of which he has included. As these arches in Rome itself are mentioned, it may be added that the author shows lack of discrimination, even here. He is in doubt whether the arch of Gallienus was originally single or triple, when not only the structure itself, but the great drawing of it, made by San Gallo before 1500, proves that it had three arcades. On the other hand, he is sure that the so-called arch of Drusus was originally triple and not single, on the basis of some blocks, which any architect would have told him were later insertions. From every point of view, the series should not be made to include, as arches, the *spina* of the circus of Vienne and a mausoleum at Celenderis. The most spectacular *quid pro quo* is calling the famous solid mausoleum of the Julii at S. Remy an arch, because it is crowned by a small arched canopy. The human and historic interest would have been greatly enhanced if the real meaning of the arches as civic monuments had been grasped and if greater familiarity with his theme had enabled the writer to triple or quadruple the number of arches described. Altogether, it must be confessed that the article contains no new material and makes no contribution to knowledge.

## Science.

*An Alabama Student and Other Biographical Essays.* By William Osler. New York: Henry Frowde. $2 net.

No slight excellence in the purely medical writings of the present Regius professor of medicine at Oxford is the charming fashion in which he weaves historical allusion into a narrative otherwise plain and dull, and not the least of his many services is the stimulus he has given to the study of the historical side of medical questions. How effective this has been may be inferred from the numerous historical articles in the Bulletins of the Johns Hopkins Hospital and in other professional journals in recent years. Those who wish to know the method of this stimulation may learn it by studying this delightful book, which contains a baker's dozen of essays in biography prepared as occasional addresses before various societies. The main title is given by the story of the career of John Bassett, an obscure Southern practitioner, rescued from oblivion by the chance recognition of merit in a couple of contributions buried in a journal almost equally forgotten. Osler's interest in Bassett illustrates his view of biography; that it is not so much the enumeration of events as the estimate of conditions and results that counts. This, of course, may come close to preaching—in fact, at times one dimly discerns the shadow of a cassock beneath the professional gown—but it is a very good sort of preaching, concerning ideas and ideals of which the average medical student hears far too little.

Six of these essays deal with Americans: Bassett, Bartlett ("a peripatetic of peripatetics"), Beaumont (a model account of the first American physiologist), Holmes, Pepper, Stillé; and, incidentally, much is added to throw light on medical practice and instruction of the first half of the last century. It so happens, quite accidentally, that stress is laid upon the rejuvenation of medicine in this country by those exceptionally brilliant students who went to Paris in the third decade; in fact, another entire essay, a very charming one, is devoted to Louis and his influence on American medicine. Some day Professor Osler may find opportunity to estimate the influence of a later call of Europe which led no less brilliant, although perhaps less conspicuous, students, to sit at the feet of gifted German teachers and to bring back those methods of investigation in the laboratory which have done so much to put American medicine upon a proper foundation—a more potent influence than that of Louis and his school, we venture to think, because wider and deeper. Of these six essays the most complex is the remarkable appreciation of that really remarkable man, William Pepper. It would be interesting to know Dr. Pepper's opinion of the insight and discretion, not to say reserve, which Professor Osler shows here.

The rest of the book deals with older writers and brings much entertaining, sometimes curious, information. The least medical—on the whole the least satisfactory—is the essay on Keats, but it is amply redeemed by that on Sir Thomas Browne, read at a tercentennial celebration in England, in which the zeal of the biographer is almost outstripped by that of the bibliophile who had many editions to show. Bibliographical interests are also conspicuous, but less so, in the account of Fracastorius, the intellectual father of Syphilus, whose disease became a scourge. Seventeen pages are devoted to Thomas Dover and his extraordinary career as buccaneer and physician, burning many kinds of powder, one of which is familiar to posterity and bids fair to survive the competition of coal tar derivatives without number. Dover is interesting to posterity also as the rescuer of the original Robinson Crusoe, although some editors are rather less certain of Defoe's obligations to Alexander Selkirk. The essay on Locke brings out the medical side of his life and adds much to the work of other authors, being based on Osler's own examination of the Locke manuscripts in the British Museum and the record office.

In many respects the gem is the last essay of all, the Harveian oration of 1906, in which the writer undertakes to say something fresh on a topic which has been treated hundreds of times by his predecessors—and succeeds. Premising that the distinction of Harvey lies less "in the demonstration of the fact of the circulation" than "in the demonstration of the method," he proceeds to consider the discovery as illustrating certain aspects of the growth of truth. Here come out all the merits of Osler's method in biography. In nearly all the essays, there is abundant evidence of research, of the hunt for original sources (almost too briefly recorded for the benefit of the reader), and the careful use of them; but there is no musty odor, no rattling of dry bones, whether Osler goes back thirty or three hundred years. The reader feels that the author thoroughly understands the men of whom he writes and to an un-

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usual degree is able to think their thoughts and appreciate their difficulties, so that biographical data are no longer mere dates and chronicles, but become living things, human experiences intelligible and appealing.

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The "Surgical Memoirs" of Dr. J. G. Mumford (Moffat, Yard & Co.) is not concerned with the practical side of surgery as the conventional title would lead the reader to expect, but rather with its history. Almost exactly a third of the volume is a reprint from Keen's "System of Surgery," where it serves as an historical introduction in which the development of the art is given in what is often the barest outline, jumping gayly from Galen to Vesalius with a mere intimation of the existence of the Arabians and no mention at all of Salerno. The subject is considered in connection with seven great names (Hippocrates, about whom much is more mythical than the text admits, Galen, Vesalius, Paré, Von Haller, Hunter, Lister), with incidental mention of numerous others. A section devoted to American surgery gives the student a slight acquaintance with many worthies. The more important things in the rest of the book are two essays on surgical matters, one of them an entertaining summary of the "Teachings of the Old Surgeons," and five in biography, extended sketches of the careers of Cooper, Brodie, the elder J. C. Warren, Jacob Bigelow, and Samuel Howe. The story of Howe is told in a chapter whose title, "Boston Medicine One Hundred Years Ago and a Notable Physician of the Last Century," is quite misleading, for the reader will learn little of the medicine or its practice in 1807. The essay on Jacob Bigelow, not a surgeon, but a medical man of most varied interests, is exceedingly attractive, and appears to be much more the work of the author himself and less a facile compilation from standard sources. Taken as a whole, the book, well printed and enriched with a dozen good portraits, is written with too ready a pen, but is nevertheless pleasant reading and will be useful to many to whom a more scholarly work would be unwelcome.

The "Text Book of General Bacteriology," which Prof. E. O. Jordan has prepared (Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co.), rests on the assumption that the subject should find a place in every general scientific course, and fulfils the requirement well. Some of it is a little special for a general reader quite unfamiliar with the subject, but much of the book is easy and pleasant reading. The title is interpreted liberally; for the pathogenic protozoa, particularly the trypanosomes and the organism of malaria, are included. In short, the book deals with the micro-organisms of special interest to man, excluding, however, the higher forms, despite the importance of microscopical stages. The chapter on method is brief—in places almost too brief—it being held that the practice of the bacteriologist is to be learned in the laboratory. After a short account of classification follow chapters on the relation of bacteria to disease, and on immunity, very well treated. Later come the more important organisms with a brief account of the disease due to each, and some discussion of treatment, particularly of the specific treatment by antitoxic preparations. All this is well done, and, considering the space allowed, remarkably clear and intelligible, save that the clinical side of the subject is not quite so simple and easy, as the reader is often led to infer. The material is everywhere fresh and of the newest, not even that wandering human typhoid culture recently unmasked as the source of many cases being overlooked. In the tuberculosis question Jordan considers Koch's attitude, that bovine tuberculosis involves no danger to man, dangerously one-sided. In the matter of antitoxins, except for diphtheria, the statements are very conservative, being favorable to a protective vaccination for typhoid, and to Haffkine's inoculation for plague, but less so to Yersin's serum; finding the value of tetanus antitoxin to be chiefly prophylactic, and dubious as to Shiga's antidysenteric serum, which by one of the rare misprints is called a polivalent serum. There are also good chapters on the behavior of bacteria to milk, and concerning their rôle in tanning, in the curing of tobacco, and in other industries. The bacteriology of water is taken up in a particularly instructive fashion destructive to faith in filters as commonly used. A final chapter notes briefly the infectious diseases (smallpox, scarlet fever, mumps, yellow fever, and others), which are probably caused by micro-organisms not yet definitely determined. In each case the prevailing thories are briefly considered. Only for mumps and scarlatina does the discovery of the germ seem to be regarded as near at hand. There is no mention of any possible relation of micro-organisms to cancer.

In this day, in which so much attention is given to the abnormal, it might well repay some psychologist to make a study of the type of mind displayed by those who delight in writing books in which they profess to advance a given science, although quite unwilling to acquaint themselves with the work of their predecessors or contemporaries. "A Theory of Mind," by John Lewis March (Charles Scribner's Sons), and "Psychology of the Will," by James A. Ritchey (Broadway Publishing Co.), are excellent examples of works of this character. Dr. March apparently glories in the fact, mentioned in his preface, that "the preparation of the theory has been accomplished almost in solitude"; he thus accounts for the fact that he has "little to say in the way of special acknowledgment." Dr. Ritchey seems to be familiar with Noah Porter's "Human Intellect," but he offers little evidence that on the subject of his discourse he has read with understanding any works much more modern. It is significant that both of these authors are masters of arts and doctors of philosophy. Surely, men who have thus been honored should feel themselves bound by the responsibilities of men who have been highly trained. No "theory of mind" can be seriously considered which does not declare its relations, perhaps hostile, perhaps friendly, with the conceptions of the great modern psychologists. No "psychology of will" can be treated with respect which does not show an appreciative comprehension of the broad field of thought in relation to this subject which is open to any one who is within reach of our public libraries.

In "Electro Metallurgy" (D. Van Nostrand Co.), John B. B. Kershaw aims to give a brief and clear account of the application of electricity to metallurgy. The science and art of the subject dates from the experiments of Sir Humphrey Davy, who, in 1806-08, by means of a battery separated the metals sodium and potassium; and it received a great impetus by the invention of the Gramme dynamo in 1870. The progress in the art may be gauged by the increase in the output of products and the cheapening of price. The production of aluminum in 1889 was eighty-five tons; in 1906 it was 12,000 tons, and the price has fallen from $14 to fifty cents a pound. The production of calcium and carbide of calcium—the latter forming the basis of an acetylene gas industry—shows even greater progress; and a great range of new substances, among them carborundum, have been discovered which are revolutionizing the mechanical and chemical industries. The application of the dynamo to metallurgy has led to a great development of water power; and thus a country which is rich in this power is destined to pre-eminence in metallurgical industries. The future of Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland, for instance, in the direction of electrical industries is greater than that of Germany. The political economist will find this book very suggestive.

The committee in charge of the Sarah Berliner Research Fellowship for Women will offer, every two years, a fellowship of the value of twelve hundred dollars, available for study and research in physics, chemistry, or biology, in either America or Europe. Applicants must already hold the degree of doctor of philosophy, or be similarly equipped for the work. Application should be made before March 1 to the chairman of the committee, Mrs. Christine Ladd Franklin, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, from whom further details may be obtained. The donor of this fund, Emile Berliner of Washington, is one of the perfecters of the telephone and the inventor of the gramophone; he has also been of late years unremittingly active in the campaign for the prevention of tuberculosis.

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has conferred the Hayden Memorial Gold Medal for 1908 on John Mason Clarke, the State Geologist of New York, in recognition of his distinguished services to geological science.

There will be a notable gathering of scientists in Baltimore during the Christmas recess. The American Association for the Advancement of Science will meet December 28 to January 2; the American Health League, December 31; the Eastern Branch of the American Society of Zoologists, December 29-31; the American Society of Vertebrate Palæontologists, December 28-30; the Geological Society of America, December 29-31; the American Physiological Society, December 29. The American Society of Biological Chemists, the American Nature-Study Society, the Entomological Society of America, and other scientific bodies will also hold their sessions in Baltimore.

The next International Congress of Chemistry will be held in London from May 27 to June 2, 1909.

The senior astronomer of England, Andrew Graham, has just died in Cambridge

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at the age of ninety-three. He was of Irish birth, and began his astronomical work in the late Col. Cooper's observatory at Markree, County Sligo. Afterwards he was the assistant at the Cambridge observatory, where he devoted himself chiefly to observing one of the zones of stars arranged for by the Astronomische Gesellschaft.

The death is also reported of a young astronomer of promise, C. C. Dolmage, who was graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, in 1893. His great work, "The Astronomy of To-day," was published only a few months ago.

Jean Albert Baudry, the French scientist, died November 27, at the age of eighty-one. He was educated at the College Stanislas. In 1853 he travelled in the Orient, and he then spent five years—1855 to 1860—in palæontological researches in Greece. He was made assistant naturalist at the Museum of Natural History, and in 1872 professor of palæontology in that institution. His works include "Recherches scientifiques en Orient," "Animaux fossiles et géologie de l'Attique," "Enchainement du monde animal dans les temps géologiques," and "Essai de paléontologie philosophique."

From Paris comes news of the death, at the age of sixty-six, of Dr. Ernest Hamy, for nearly forty years a laborious student of anthropology. With Quatrefages he classified and described "fossil man"; he organized the ethnographical museum of the Trocadéro, so rich in Americana, and, most of all, he stimulated students, museums, societies, congresses with his own unceasing activity. Since 1892 he had been professor of anthropology at the Muséum (Jardin des Plantes). Among his writings are: "Pièces de paléontologie humaine" (1878), "Cronica ethnica" (1880), "Origines du musée d'ethnographie" (1890), "Études historiques géographiques" (1890), and "La Galerie américaine du musée du Trocadéro" (1898). He leaves an extensive library and collection in the American section of his science, chiefly in South American documents; the fate of this collection will be watched with interest by many students who long ago recognized his admirable equipment for his work.

# Drama.

## "THE WINTER FEAST."

It is improbable that "The Winter Feast," the second in the cycle of plays written by Charles Rann Kennedy—"The Servant in the House" was the first—which was produced in the Savoy Theatre on Monday afternoon, will rival its predecessor in popularity, owing to its gloomy and unsympathetic character. But it is, nevertheless, a work of uncommon power, which will confirm the reputation of Mr. Kennedy as a dramatist of vigorous imagination, high artistic purpose, and rare technical skill. Considered as a piece of original dramatic invention, it is one of the most notable achievements of recent years.

The story is too complicated for any attempt at brief analysis here, but it may be described as a companion piece to "The Servant in the House," being a study in human ferocity as that was an essay on brotherly love. The scene is laid in the house of an old Viking, in Iceland, in the eleventh century, and the plot deals with the desolation, despair, and slaughter arising from a bit of cruel treachery committed twenty years before the first lifting of the curtain. Of the eight characters concerned, all perish except two, the original sinner and the evil spirit who, for vengeance, sets the machinery of suspicion, jealousy, and hatred in motion. The dexterity with which this machinery is handled, the adroit and logical way in which circumstances and character are made to act and react upon each other, the ingenuity displayed in bringing about the clash of conflicting passions, and the neatness with which the threads of a most complicated design are woven into the scheme of the final catastrophe, denote a master-workman. There is also a remarkable observance of the unities. The entire action proceeds from the one dominant motive, there is but one scene, and the supposed time of the play is no longer than the actual time of the performance. Moreover, it is to be noted that though the tale is one of slaughter, suicide, and broken hearts, all the deaths except one—about which there is nothing sensational—occur off the stage. The actual horrors are left to the imagination. In spite of this, the barbaric atmosphere, with its frank passions, its superstitions, its rude honor, its simple courtesies, and its hospitality, is well preserved. The dialogue, with its touch of the archaic, is studiously simple, but terse, forcible, and often eloquent. In several of the most critical scenes the quality is that of poetic tragedy. To sum up, this is a play of positive value, but the unrelieved and unduly prolonged gloom of it will militate against its success with the general public. It ought to be shortened by half an hour and played in much quicker time.

The acting is unequal. Miss Matthison gives a superb performance of a scorned woman. Arthur Lewis is exceedingly effective as a malevolent priest, and Walter Hampden does some capital work. Other characters are less happily cast.

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Miss Fannie Ward will open her American engagement in Jerome K. Jerome's new comedy at the Park Theatre, Boston, January 4. The title of the play has been changed from "Fanny and the Servant Problem" to "A Servant Problem." Charles Cortwright will play the chief male character.

Miss Margaret Anglin is reported to have been very successful in Melbourne with her performance of Viola, in "Twelfth Night." Warm praise also is bestowed upon the Malvolio of George S. Titheradge. It is the expressed intention of Miss Anglin to appear as Katharine, Viola, and Beatrice in New York next autumn, after her production of "The Awakening of Helena Ritchie." The announcement is interesting, as she is one of the few younger actresses with whom high achievement in the poetic drama seems possible.

# Music.

*Piano Compositions.* Johann Sebastian Bach. Vol. II. Boston: Oliver Ditson Co. $1.50.

*Gottschalk Piano Compositions.* Vol. I. Boston: Oliver Ditson Co.

*Songs from the Operas, for Mezzo-soprano.* Oliver Ditson Co. $1.50.

The Musicians' Library of the Oliver Ditson Co. already includes thirty-five volumes, all edited by specialists and printed in the clearest type, on strong glazed paper; and the books remain open at any page without having their backs broken. Lovers of the best in piano music will welcome particularly the second Bach volume, edited, like the first, by Ebenezer Prout, and including a selection from his larger compositions—chiefly suites, toccatas, fantasias, and fugues. Dr. Prout, an accomplished scholar, has been, since 1894, professor of music at the university of Dublin, and under his guidance it becomes easier to master and enjoy the Bachian polyphony. An introduction discusses the phrasing, notation, fingering, and the vexed question of the ornaments; there are also notes on the pieces selected. As regards the ornaments, the editor wisely accepts the theory that many of them were introduced to compensate for a want of sustaining power in the old instruments and therefore he excludes all which may not have been written by Bach himself. In playing these pieces on the improved modern instruments "too few ornaments are certainly better than too many." While some of the pieces in this volume are for the trained virtuoso only, amateurs can play not a few, especially the slow ones, which contain more of the essence of Bach's genius than the others. Some of them are almost startlingly modern; for example, the adagio on pp. 122-3, with its delightfully natural ending. But all of this music is a source of endless delight; it never palls, like the works of most other masters.

In startling contrast to this collection is the volume of selections from Gottschalk. In the sixties of the last century this pianist was for a time the rage. For his friends he played Beethoven or Mendelssohn, but at his public concerts he confined himself almost entirely to his own works. "There are plenty of pianists," he used to say, "who can play that music as well as I can, or better, but none of them can play

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my music half so well as I can." He was born at New Orleans, his father being an Englishman, his mother a Creole of St. Domingan descent, and he was the first American musician to achieve distinction in Europe. Berlioz said of him:

> The boldness, brilliancy, and originality of his playing at once dazzle and astonish, and the charming simplicity with which he renders simple things seems to belong to another individuality, distinct from that which marks his thundering energy.

In this sentence Berlioz puts his finger on the three qualities needed for the proper interpretation of Gottschalk's piano music—brilliancy, simplicity, energy. William Arms Fisher, the well-known song-writer, who edits this volume, has chosen specimens of each of these styles, and his introduction supplies the information needed by those who would breathe the real Creole atmosphere of the Gottschalk music. It is not "high-toned" music, being mostly of the drawing-room order; yet an age which applauds Melba and Tetrazzini madly, ought to find much to entertain it in the florid music of Gottschalk.

H. E. Krehbiel has again displayed good judgment in his selections of operatic songs for mezzo-soprano. They range from Caccini in the seventeenth century to Massenet, who still launches an opera every other year. An erudite and helpful introduction comments on each of the songs chosen, forming, in fact, a miniature history of the opera in Italy, France, and Germany.

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Massenet's operatic miracle play, "Le Jongleur de Notre Dame," which had its first European performance at Monte Carlo in 1902, was heard in America for the first time at the Manhattan Opera House last Friday. The libretto is based on one of the stories in Anatole France's "Étui de nacre," which in turn harks back to a mediæval legend. The story of a juggler, who has no way of attesting his faith except to execute his tricks in honor of Our Lady is calculated to bring out the best qualities of Massenet's genius. That genius, like Gounod's, hovers between two topics, frail femininity and religious ecstasy. In "Thais" the two are combined; in the "Jongleur" we have only the mystic ecstasies of the monastery, and those the composer expresses with a rare art of creating atmosphere and conjuring up the spirit—ecclesiastic and musical—of the fourteenth century. To give Mary Garden a chance to appear in this opera, M. Renaud (who impersonates in it, with his usual delightful art, the part of the monastery cook Boniface) persuaded Massenet to rewrite the part of the old juggler; and so skilful is Miss Garden in metamorphosing herself that the change must be pronounced an actual improvement. It is the best thing Miss Garden has done here, the combination of youthful reverence in her face with a certain degree of mischievousness being particularly fascinating. She is always a good actress and sometimes a good singer.

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# Art.

*Little Books on Art.* Enamels by Mrs. Nelson Dawson; Jewellery by Cyril Davenport; Miniatures by Cyril Davenport; Bookplates by Edward Almack. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. $1 net, each.

*The Arts and Crafts of Older Spain.* By Leonard Williams. [The World of Art Series.] Three vols. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

Decorative art as a topic for popular study is losing nothing of its fascination; and the present year has seen the establishment of two useful series devoted to that subject. A large and thoroughly planned set of books to which we have devoted much space in these columns, the Connoisseur's Series, has brought into special notice the general editor, Cyril Davenport. He is also the author of two of the Little Books on Art, now before us. These are square books, only four and one-half by six inches, with many inserted plates and a few text cuts. The colored frontispieces, though specially announced, are not epoch-making productions; nor are the half-tones themselves of very great charm. They serve their purpose, however, of explaining the text.

In "Enamels," Mrs. Dawson shows familiarity with the different processes described, or many of them. There are seven principal chapters, of which, after an introduction, one is devoted to Cloisonné enamels, one to Champlevé enamels, and one to painted enamels; but then the logical order is broken, because Chapter v, instead of dealing with still another process, discusses Oriental enamels made by all the three methods named above. In like manner, Chapters vi and vii are devoted to Irish enamels and modern enamels, however made. This breach in logical sequence is a matter of regret, for nothing is more to be desired than a treatise which shall insist upon the unity of design and of processes between East and West, the middle ages and modern times. Careful readers will separate this book into two parts: a really useful treatise based upon the writer's own experience in the practice of the art; and that cursory examination of a few pieces in museums, to which Chapters v, vi, and vii are devoted. There is to be noted, moreover, an arbitrary omission of certain important branches of the enameller's art. On page 168, we are told, for example, that Cloisonné enamel on a porcelain ground "hardly comes within the scope of this book," though why this very common form is excluded is not explained. In short, the value of the book ceases with page 140, and the close of the discussion of European enamels.

The volume on Jewels in the Connoisseur's Series ignores the work of the ancients and of the men of the East. No such fault is to be found with Mr. Davenport's own volume, which is as general in its application, and as critical in its comparison of the habits of many nations and many times, as could be desired. This is, in fact, the typical book of the series. In an attempt to explain in one hundred and fifty small pages, the most important things in regard to personal jewelry, Mr. Davenport has been eminently successful. From these chapters, the most practised student of the subject could hardly fail to learn much that is new.

The same author's "Miniatures" is a sound explanation of this minute and delicate portrait painting. The subject is divided geographically: after a very brief introductory treatise on antiquity, English miniatures occupy Chapters ii, iii, and iv, and foreign miniatures are crowded into the twenty pages of Chapter v—all this to the exclusion of portraits painted in enamel, the Limousin and Petitot masterpieces, and all their kind, which are taken by themselves in Chapter vi. Wax miniatures are assigned eight pages in Chapter vii; but this subject has nothing to do with painting at all. An exhaustive treatise on these little-studied bas-reliefs would indeed be welcome to all students of the minor arts, and we may be glad to see even this slight and yet suggestive chapter. Another subject, remote enough from miniature painting, is touched upon in the pages which deal with the flat abstractions known as silhouettes. The author is evidently aware that the term miniature has nothing to do with small size, and yet he seems content to class under it all diminutive portraits, and nothing else. It is desirable that the title of his book should be changed so as to describe more exactly its contents.

Book plates are generally uninteresting to the student of art, for the bookplate which is a fine design is very rare; and the design which is significant and suggestive, is almost as uncommon. To seek for the two in one—to ask for bookplates, which are valuable from their association and meaning, and also as artistic designs—is to propose to one's self a search for almost impossible perfection. The reason is not far to seek. Bookplates came into fashion at a time when fine designing was a rarity, when the instinct for truth and charm in simple compositions had almost disappeared from Europe; and unfortunately for this branch of art, there were no examples in antiquity, nor any patterns to be taken from the

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Orientals; and Europe—the inartistic and uncertain Europe of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries—was left to itself to make such designs as seemed to it good. The results have been very unattractive. Collecting bookplates is an amusing occupation, but it must have a demoralizing effect upon the taste.

The larger and more pretentious work by Leonard Williams, aims to put into logical form what is known of the finer industrial arts of Spain. Volume I is wholly devoted to metal-work—jewelry, iron-work, bronzes, and arms; and we have only to regret that so little space has been assigned to the wrought balconies and screens which are so numerous in the peninsula. The choir-screens alone would suffice to fill a volume. But this is a small book of reference, not a folio of illustration. Volume II deals with furniture, ivories, pottery, and glass, and the one hundred pages and the thirty plates given to the pottery are well employed. More has been written about Spanish glazed and enamelled pottery than of all other Spanish arts together—but it is not easy to have too much of it. The glazed potteries, known as Hispano-Moresque, and as lustred wares, rank with the majolicas of Italy in artistic merit—in originality, if not in elaborate finish. In the chapters before us more space is allotted to more recent ware, the porcelains, as that of Buen-Retiro, and that of Moncloa, than is commonly allowed to those elaborate pieces; but the few paragraphs on the blue wares of Talavera are more valuable. Volume III takes up textiles, including embroidery, as well as lace and tapestry; and there are several appendices, and an index. The effect of Moorish design upon semi-Christian art is to be studied in Spain alone. The architecture of the Mudejar period has been presented, indeed, in the folios published by Uhde and Junghändel in recent times, as well as in the "Antigüedades de España," and other less trustworthy books; but it is hard to follow the traces of the style in the minor arts. Arms and armor show it in the very slightest fashion; and the armor of the royal collection is what foreigners study the most carefully, after the Moorish potteries. These volumes, then, serve as a suggestive and stimulating introduction to all these treasures of the peninsula; and, although the hard-working student would welcome more system, and a more analytic method, the book so arranged would be less popular. The publishers of all these books are to be congratulated and thanked upon these useful aids to the study of the finer and more graceful arts.

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That there should have been two artists in the nineteenth century, each of considerable eminence, of identical name and surname, must frequently lead to confusion. It is therefore well to state that the Alfred Stevens whose drawings are reproduced in the latest issue of the Newnes-Scribner's *Series of Drawings of the Great Masters* is not the Belgian and Parisian painter of high-life, but the English painter and sculptor, whose best known work is the Wellington Monument in St. Paul's. In the drawings themselves we must confess to a certain disappointment. There is feeling for mass and for movement, and much vigor, especially in the slighter and more rapid sketches, and there is delicate workmanship in some of the decorative studies. It is the character of his female figures that puzzles, leaving one in doubt whether he drew too literally from a poor model or invented an ugly type to which he adhered. In contrast with their robust limbs, the small, flat waist and protruding abdomen of these figures are in either case disquieting.

In "Kunstgewerbe und Kultur," two volumes in Die Kultur series, Prof. Werner Sombart traces the evolution of the art industries of the past, and dwells upon the difficulties of the present day. He distinguishes between a struggle with capitalism and a struggle with the mechanical technique of modern times. Warmly referring to Ruskin as the champion of what now seems a lost cause, he admits that under the modern economic system and in the existing stage of artistic development a return to old processes of work and to previous ways of distribution would be impossible. "One must bear in mind the fact that at the time when artisans were artists art itself was hardly more than a trade."

An exceptionally fine specimen of bookmaking, both in letterpress and in illustrations, is the folio being published (Geneva: F. Boissannas & Cie.) under the patronage of King George I of Greece, entitled "En Grèce par monts et par vaux." The editors are Daniel Baud-Bovy and Frédéric Boissannas. The first instalment has just been issued, and the work, when complete, will contain chapters on Corfu, Athens, Zemenon, the ancient cities of Mycenæ, Argos and Tiryns, and the temples of Tegea, Bassæ, Olympia, and Patras. The archæological data are by George Nicole and the introduction is by Th. Homolle.

"Rosa Bonheur: sa vie, son œuvre" is an expensive memorial volume (50 francs—E. Flammarion) compiled by Anna Klumpke, the American friend and testamentary executor and legatee of the great woman painter.

H. Fierens-Gevaert, lecturer on the history of art at the University of Liège, publishes a quarto volume, with forty-four inset plates (12 frames—Van Oest, Brussels), on "Les Primitifs Flamands." There are to be four volumes, sold separately. This first number begins with the creators of Flemish art—Hubert and Jan Van Eyck, Roger Vander Weyden, the newly distinguished Maître de Flémalle, Pétrus Christus, and Thierry Bouts and sons. The reproductions (62) are from Belgium collections.

The British School of Archæology at Rome has continued its exploration in Sardinia during the past two months under Dr. Duncan Mackenzie. As before, special attention has been paid the *nuraghe* and the "tombs of the giants." Several previously unknown types were discovered and photographed and their ground plan reproduced. They show important resemblances to prehistoric sepulchral monuments in other parts of Western Europe.

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts announces the foundation of the Carol H. Beck Memorial Gold Medal, to be awarded annually to the best portrait in its annual exhibition, painted within three years of the time of its exhibition by an American artist. The medal is endowed by the Hon. James M. Beck, as a memorial to his sister, Miss Carol H. Beck, a portrait painter, who died October 15, 1908. The Beck Medal will be awarded for the first time from the 104th annual exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy, which will be held from January 31 to March 14. The committees of the exhibition are as follows:

Painting—Hugh H. Breckenridge, Adolph E. Borie, 3d, Paul Dougherty, Thomas Eakins, W. Sergeant Kendall, L. H. Meakin, Gari Melchers, William M. Paxton, Edward F. Rook, Edmund C. Tarbell, Everett L. Warner.

Sculpture—Charles Grafly, H. A. MacNeil, A. Phimister Proctor.

Hanging—Hugh H. Breckenridge, Paul Dougherty, William M. Paxton.

The Common Council of Florence has voted to celebrate the semi-centennial of the Tuscan revolution of 1859, "not with empty festivities and mere commercial speculation, but with the creation of an institution of great civic and artistic importance"—to quote the words of the motion. The city, dissatisfied with its Galleria Moderna, proposes to found a permanent gallery of modern art, native and foreign. It is expected that the government will permit the modern collection now in the Belle Arte to form the nucleus of the new gallery, which will be placed in the Palazzina in the Cascine and opened to the public next spring. The Common Council has also voted to support the plan, already announced, for an exhibition of portraits in Florence in 1911. It will be limited to five or six hundred canvases, painted between the end of the sixteenth century and 1861, the year of the proclamation of the kingdom of Italy. As a part of the city's memorial of the events of 1861, the changes necessary to reopen Or San Michele and the Logge of Leon Battista Alberti will be made, and a marble reproduction of Michael Angelo's David will be placed in the position once occupied by the original in front of the Palazzo Vecchio.

Dr. Pietro d'Achiardi has been commissioned to complete the rearrangement of the Vatican gallery, which had been interrupted by the death of Prof. Ludwig Seitz. Dr. d'Achiardi is thoroughly competent for the work, as he has been intimately connected with the gallery in his position of scientific adviser to Professor Seitz.

Among the exhibitions at the dealers' galleries in this city are early Dutch and Flemish pictures at Ehrich's; miniatures by Charles Turrell at Scott & Fowles's; paintings by Charles Melville Dewey at Macbeth's, till December 10; oils and water-colors by Herbert W. Faulkner, Powell's, December 14; Sir L. Alma Tadema's Caracalla and Geta, Arthur Tooth & Sons, December 31.

Alfred Paris, an artist who has exhibited at the Salon since 1886, has just died

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at Fontainebleau at the age of sixty-one. He studied under Édouard Detaille, whose style he followed. He illustrated a number of books, including Halévy's "Recits de Guerre," published by Goupil.

# Finance.

## LOW MONEY RATES AND THE GREAT BORROWERS.

The present month opened with demand loans in Wall Street at about 1 per cent.; and rates for three months' loans on stock collateral, below 3 per cent. For December, these are unusual figures. This month is normally a period of active money and falling bank reserves, when currency flows in the largest volume of the year into the channels of hand-to-hand circulation, and when the credit facilities of great banking institutions, here and abroad, are strained to provide simultaneously for the heavy commercial trade and for the large fiscal operations which mark the so-called "turn of the year." How exceptionally low these present rates for money are, may be judged by the fact that in December, 1907, call money on the New York market touched 25 per cent.; in 1906, 29; 1905, 125; 1904 (when trade reaction and abundant bank reserves had been, as in the present year, the order of the day), 5; 1903, 9; 1902, 12; 1901, 12; 1900, 6½; 1899, 186; 1898, 6; and 1897, 5½. It is possible, no doubt, that the money market, later in the present month, will reach higher figures than this week's; but the rate for call money has nevertheless been lower than in any December since 1896, and that for time money lower than in this month of any year since 1898. On nearly all the larger foreign money markets, the case is similar.

Low rates for money, an indication of idle capital, would on their face suggest the probability of free use of credit, both in speculation and in promotion of enterprise. The first result has certainly been witnessed. The Stock Exchange, for a week or more, has been deserted by the outside investing public because of high prices, but nevertheless, the quotations have been so jacked up by professional speculators that, in a score of active shares, the record prices of the year have been attained since the public was driven out. At the same time, powerful borrowers have appeared with applications for new capital.

When the bids for $12,500,000 in New York city bonds were opened on Monday of last week, it was found that the total applied for was $157,000,000. This oversubscription caused frequent inquiry in banking circles, as to why the railways do not at once take advantage of so favorable an opportunity for raising large sums. Industrial corporations seem to be doing so; the American Telephone Company has this week offered $50,000,000 bonds, and the United States Rubber Company $20,000,000. It was the railways, however, of which James J. Hill declared, in 1906, that $1,100,000,000 new capital for improvements every year, for the five ensuing years, was absolutely indispensable. Two weeks ago, the Illinois Central sold bonds to the amount of $20,000,000; last week the Erie applied for authority to issue $30,000,000, and the Denver and Rio Grande negotiated a sale of $17,500,000; but in all three cases the primary object was to pay off floating debts. There has been no important sale of bonds by railways since last June, when the Union Pacific brought out its $50,000,000 first and refunding 4s. During the eighteen months preceding the Union Pacific issue, the roads, in most cases, could raise money only through short term high interest bearing notes. Why do they not come into the market now?

The floating debts of a pressing nature have now been pretty generally extinguished. But this brings up a matter concerning which much was said in 1906—the problem of additions and improvements, lack of provision for which was then declared to be throttling industry. Are the railways to do nothing in that direction now, and if so, why? Two important railway officers have lately answered the question. In his annual report of last October, President Ripley of the Atchison said:

> The recession of business found your company engaged in extensive construction and improvement work, some of which was so far advanced that it could not be suspended without great loss. Such work therefore was vigorously pushed and substantially completed. Other construction and improvement work, although highly desirable from the standpoint of economy of operation and good service to the public, was suspended and will not be taken up again until conditions improve.

When asked, last week, if there would not now be a rapid increase on the part of the railroads in orders for materials, James J. Hill replied:

> Conditions are improving undoubtedly, but we [the Great Northern Railway] have fifty locomotives stored away which have never had steam in them. Until they are put in use, I do not think that we will place orders for new ones.

That Mr. Hill's explanation of the case does not apply to one railway only, was sufficiently proved by a recent Railway Association report on the car supply. In the middle of November, idle cars were 300,000 less in number than in the middle of April, but 109,500 nevertheless remained sidetracked, whereas, exactly a year before, the supply was 44,800 short of immediate requirements.

Yet even these explanations leave the questions open: first, whether the railways will not once more enter the money market on an enormous scale if trade activity does return to normal and idle cars are all in use; second, what effect such a new demand for capital would produce on the market.

"King Cotton," by James L. Watkins (New York: Published by the author), adds another reference book to the already long list of those annually published for the benefit of the cotton trade. But here an effort has been made to give more than the usual compilations and statistics of crops, prices, exports, etc. The author has gone exhaustively into the history of cotton in each of the cotton States.

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Allen, Lyman Whitney. A Parable of the Rose, and Other Poems. Putnam. $1.25 net.

Andersen, Hans. Fairy Tales. Philadelphia: Lippincott. $1.50.

Arundel, Gerald. Victor and Other Poems. Broadway Publishing Co. $1.

Baddeley, John F. The Russian Conquest of the Caucasus. Longmans, Green.

Baldwin, May. Holly House and Ridges Row, a Tale of London Old and New. Philadelphia: Lippincott.

Belles-Lettres Series. Middleton's and Rowley's Spanish Gipsie and All's Lost by Lust; Arnold's Poems; Exodus and Daniel; Shelley's Poems; Otway's The Orphan and Venice Preserved. Boston: D. C. Heath.

Blake, Mrs. Warrenne. Memoirs of a Vanished Generation. 1813-1855. John Lane. $5 net.

Butler, Nicholas Murray. The American as He Is. Macmillan. $1 net.

Carnegie, Andrew. Problems of To-day. Wealth — Labor — Socialism. Doubleday, Page. $1.40 net.

Carr, Kent. Rivals and Chums: A Public School Story. Philadelphia: Lippincott.

Carrington, Hereward. The Coming Science. Boston: Small, Maynard. $1.50 net.

Cartwright, Julia. Baldassare Castiglione, the Perfect Courtier: His Life and Letters. 2 vols. Dutton. $7.50 net.

Catholic Encyclopedia. Vol. IV. Clan-Dio. Robert Appleton Co.

Chapin, Frederic. Toodles of Treasure Town and Her Snow Man. Saalfield Publishing Co. $1.50.

Chapman, John Jay. The Maid's Forgiveness: A Play. Moffat.

Chipman, William Pendleton. In Ship and Prison: A Story of Five Years in the Continental Navy with Captain Samuel Tucker. Saalfield Publishing Co. $1.50.

Clarke, Helen A. A Child's Guide to Mythology. Baker & Taylor Co. $1.25 net.

Crothers, Samuel McChord. By the Christmas Fire. Houghton Mifflin. $1.25 net.

De Mill, Richard Mead. The Foundation and the Superstructure, or the Faith of Christ and the Works of Man. Putnam. $3 net.


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Duffy, Richard. An Adventure in Exile. B. W. Dodge. $1.50.
Ebbinghaus, Hermann. Psychology: An Elementary Text-Book. Boston: D. C. Heath.
Education, Report of the Commission of 1907. Vol. I. Washington: Government Printing Office.
Elliot, G. F. Scott. The Romance of Early British Life from the Earliest Times to the Coming of the Danes. Philadelphia: Lippincott. $1.50 net.
Erixon, Alexandre. The Vale of Shadows. Broadway Publishing Co. $1.50.
Ferrero, Guglielmo. The Greatness and Decline of Rome. Vol. IV, Translated by H. J. Chaytor. Putnam. $2.50 net.
Frye, W. E. After Waterloo: Reminiscences of European Travel, 1815-1819. London: William Heinemann.
Gonnard, René. La Hongrie au XXe siècle. Paris: Armand Colin.
Great Rivers of the World, as Seen and Described by Famous Writers. Edited by Esther Singleton. Dodd, Mead. $1.60 net.
Hanscom, Elizabeth Deering, Ed. The Friendly Craft: A Collection of American Letters. Macmillan. $1.25 each.
Haskell, Helen Eggleston. O-Heart-San: The Story of a Japanese Girl. Boston: L. C. Page.
Herter, C. A. On Infantilism from Chronic Intestinal Infection. Macmillan. 90 cts. net.
Howard, Jerome B. Progressive Dictation Exercises. Cincinnati: Phonographic Institute Co.
Huntington, Ida M. Peter Pumpkin in Wonderland. Rand McNally.
Hyne, Cutcliffe, J. Sandy Carmichael. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Hyrst, H. W. G. Adventures among Wild Beasts. Philadelphia: Lippincott. $1.50 net.
Inchbald, Mrs. A Simple Story. Henry Frowde.
Jefferies, Richard. The Open Air; The Life of the Fields. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Jewett, John Howard. Grandmother Goose Stories: Kittens and The Bear; Ducklings Go A-Swimming; What Happened to the Little Chicks; Goslings' Picnic. Boston: Small, Maynard.
Kingsley, Charles. The Water-Babies: A Fairy Tale for a Land Baby. Dutton. $2.50.
Learned, Marion Dexter. The Life of Francis Daniel Pastorius. Philadelphia: William J. Campbell.
Lee, Holme. Legends from Fairy Land. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Lincoln Centennial Medal. Presenting the medal of Abraham Lincoln by Jules Edouard Roiné. Putnam. $5 net.
Lodge, George Cabot. Herakles. Houghton Mifflin. $1.25 net.
Lorin, Henri. L'Afrique du Nord. Paris: Armand Colin.
Lowell, James Russell. The Vision of Sir Launfal. Charles E. Merrill. 25 cts.
Lownhaupt, Frederick. Investment Bonds: Their Issue and Their Place in Finance. Putnam. $1.75 net.
Meade, L. T. The School Favourite. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Marriott, Charles. A Spanish Holiday. John Lane. $2.50 net.
Martin, Nettie Parrish. A Pilgrim's Progress in Other Worlds. Boston: Mayhew Publishing Co.
Moses, Montrose J. Henrik Ibsen: The Man and His Plays. Mitchell Kennerley. $1.50 net.
Nicoll, W. Robertson. Ian Maclaren: The Life of the Rev. John Watson, D.D. Dodd, Mead. $2 net.
Nichols, Starr Hoyt. Breath of the World. Putnam. $1.50 net.
Parker, Edward Harper. Ancient China Simplified. Dutton. $3 net.
Peple, Edward. The Mallet's Masterpiece. Moffat. 75 cts. net.
Pownall, Charles A. W. Thomas Pownall, M.P., F.R.S., Governor of Massachusetts Bay, Author of The Letters of Junius. London: Henry Stevens.
Rees, Arthur Dougherty. Give Up Your Gods: A Drama in Three Acts of Pagan and Christian Russia. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Reynolds, Stephen. A Poor Man's House. John Lane. $1.50.
Richards, Ellen H. The Cost of Cleanness. John Wiley & Sons. $1.
Rosse, Georg von. Das deutsche Element in den Vereinigten Staaten. Lemcke & Buechner.
Rooses, Max. Jacob Jordaens: His Life and Work. Dutton. $12.50 net.
Russel, Florence Kimball. In West Point Gray, as Plebe and Yearling. Boston: L. C. Page. $1.50.
Sandwick, Richard L., and Bacon, Anna Tilden. The High School Word Book. Boston: D. C. Heath. 40 cents.
Schurz, Carl. Reminiscences. Vol. III. McClure.
Shute, Henry A. The Country Band. Boston: Richard G. Badger.
Smith, J. Russell. The Ocean Carrier: A History and Analysis of the Service. Putnam.
Smith, Richard Gordon. Ancient Tales and Folklore of Japan. Macmillan. $6 net.
Stables, Gordon. A Little Gipsy Lass. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Stead, Richard. Adventures on The High Seas. Philadelphia: Lippincott. $1.50 net.
Steel, Flora Annie. India Through the Ages: A Popular and Picturesque History of Hindustan. Dutton.
Switzerland, as Described by Great Writers. Edited by Esther Singleton. Dodd, Mead. $1.60 net.
Sutton, Adah Louise. A Little Maid in Toyland. Saalfield Publishing Co. $1.
Tardieu, André. La France et Les Alliances. Paris: Félix Alcan.
Thurston, E. Temple. Mirage. Dodd, Mead. $1.50.
Towne, Charles Hanson. The Quiet Singer, and Other Poems. B. W. Dodge.
Uncle Lawrence: Young Folks' Ideas; Young Folks' Queries; Young Folks' Whys and Wherefores. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Watkeys, Frederick W. Old Edinburgh. 2 vols. $3.
Wickson, Edward J. California Fruits and How to Grow Them. Los Angeles: Kruckeberg Press. $3.
Williams, W. M. J. The King's Revenue: Being a Handbook to the Taxes and the Public Revenue. London: P. S. King & Son.
Wisdom for the Foolish. By Lambkin Sphinx. Boston: Richard G. Badger.
Wright, Carroll D. The Apprenticeship System in its Relation to Industrial Education. Washington: Government Printing Office.


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